

# Childhood obesity

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## **Obesity as a Disease**

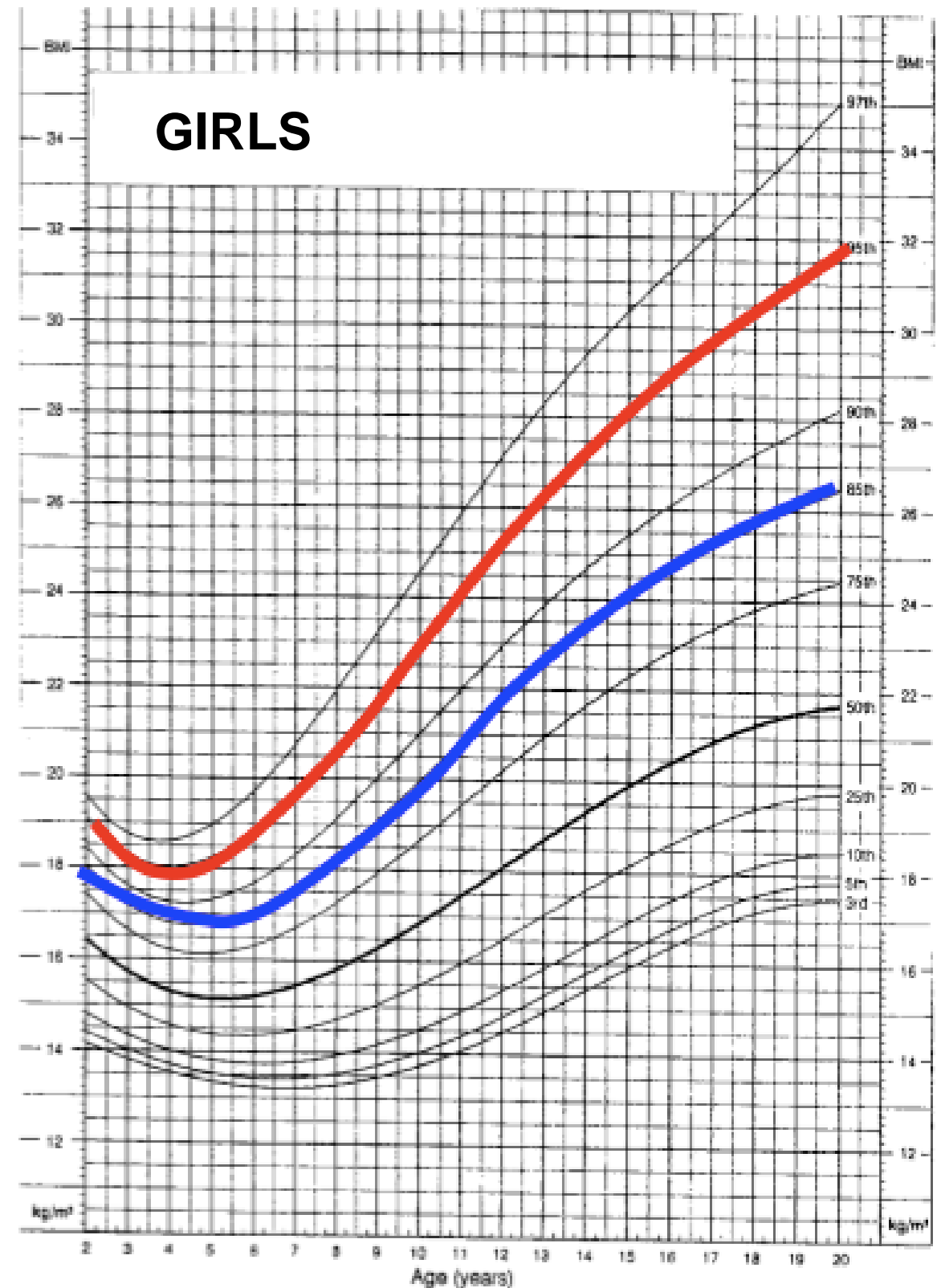
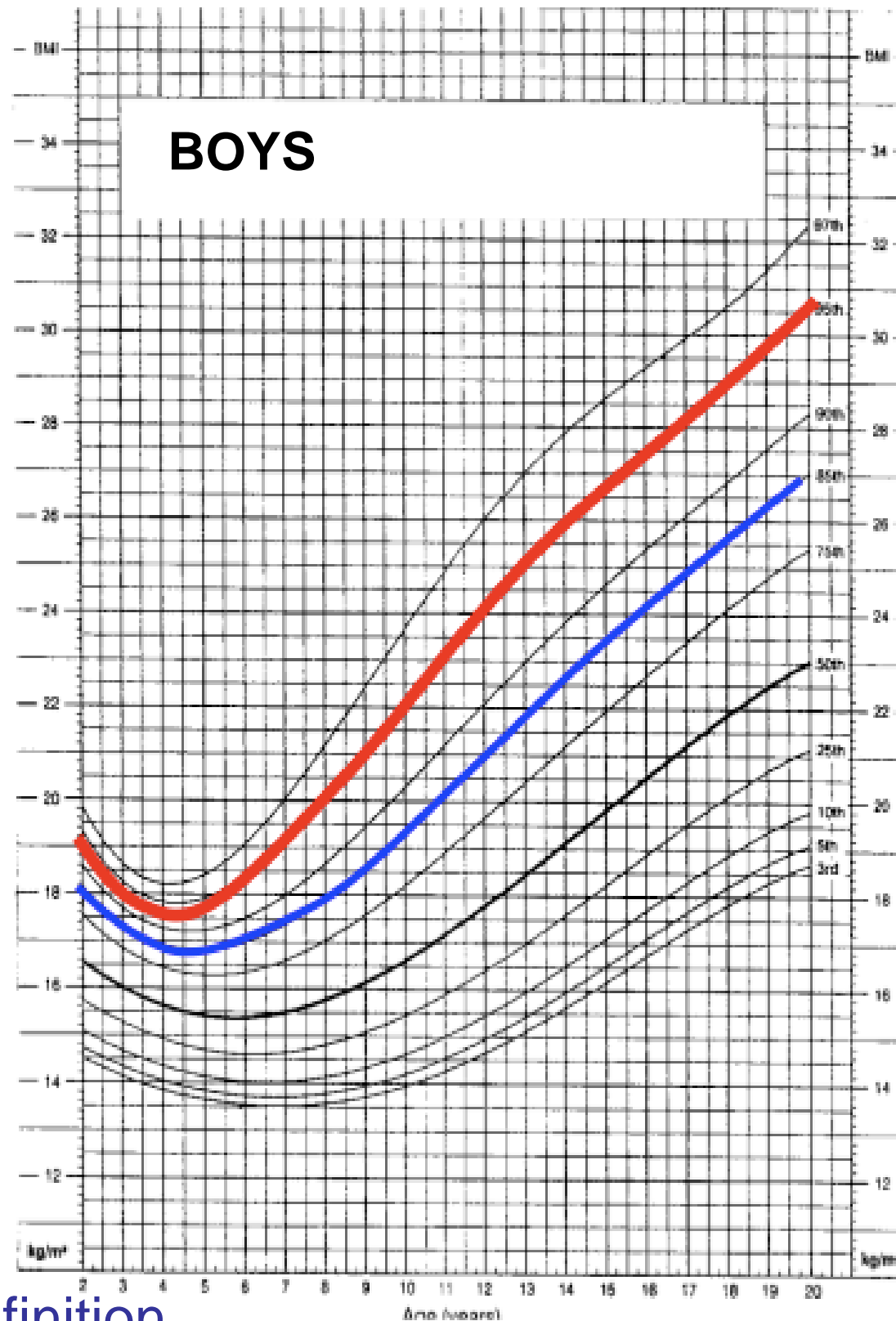
Today, the AMA adopted policy that recognizes obesity as a disease requiring a range of medical interventions to advance obesity treatment and prevention.

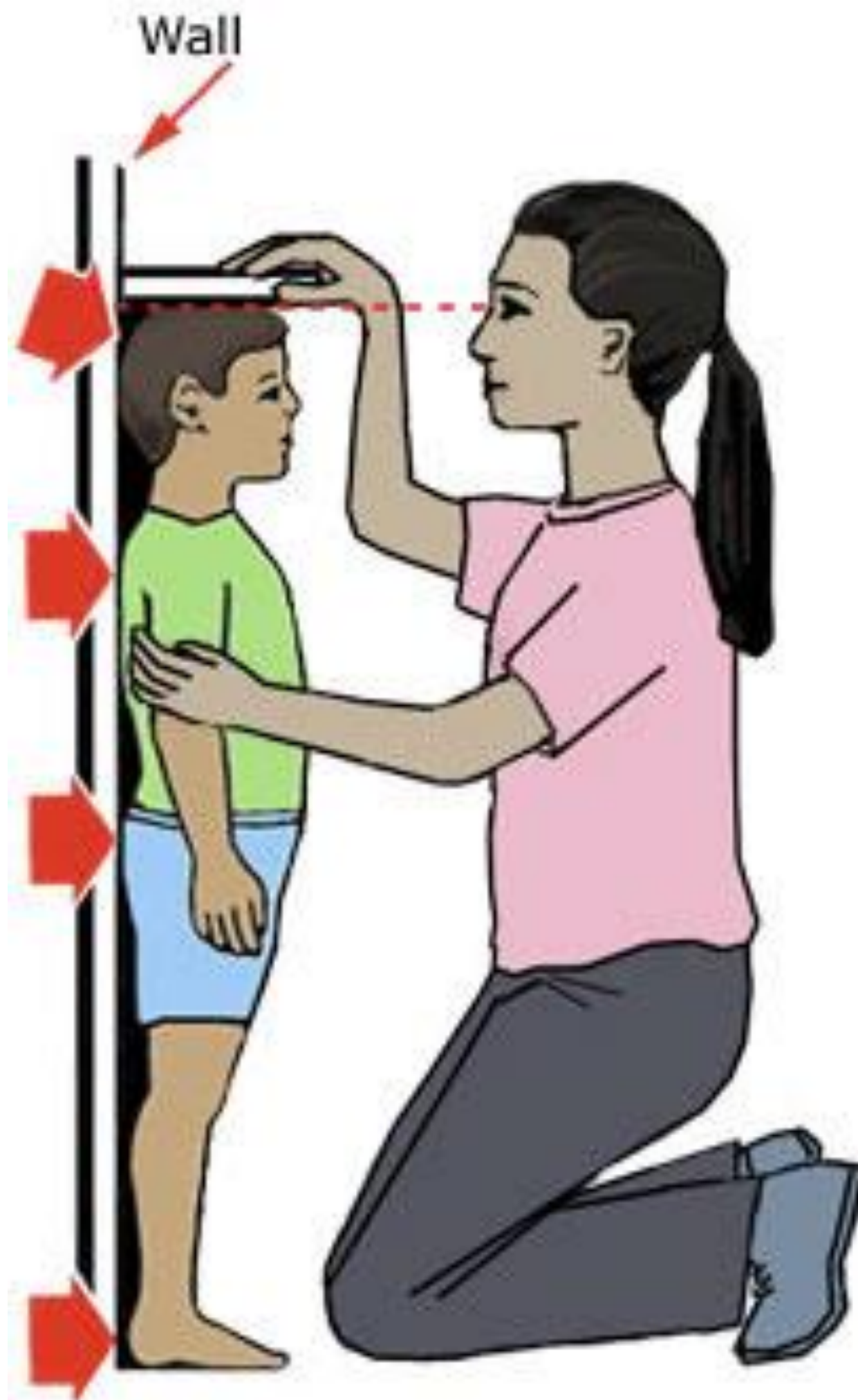
“Recognizing obesity as a disease will help change the way the medical community tackles this complex issue that affects approximately one in three Americans,” said AMA board member Patrice Harris, M.D. “The AMA is committed to improving health outcomes and is working to reduce the incidence of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes, which are often linked to obesity.”

# Childhood obesity

1. Definition
2. Differential
3. Idiopathic obesity
  - 3.1 Epidemiology
4. Complications
5. Therapy
6. Society

Definition: Obese: BMI > 95 pc  
Overweight: BMI > 85 pc





1. Definition

# What causes obesity?

## **1. Genetics (extremely rare)**

leptin gene

leptin receptor gene

POMC gene

melanocortin 4 receptor gene

## **2. Endocrine disorders (rare)**

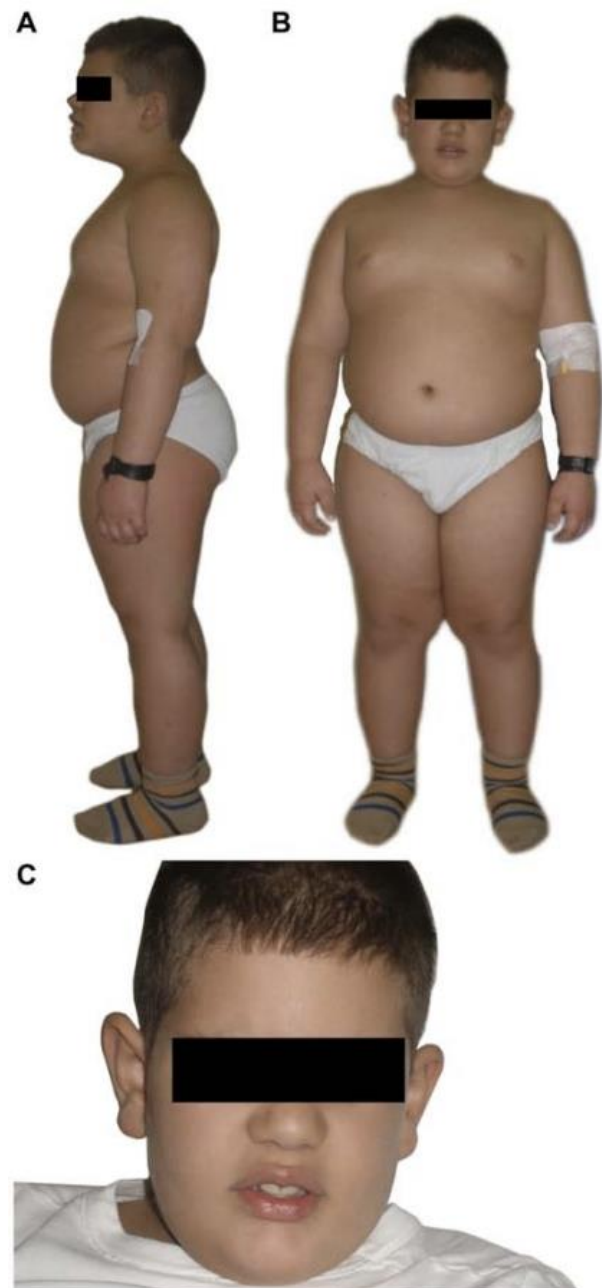
Hypothyroidism

Cushing syndrome

GH deficiency

## **3. Idiopathic (common)**





**Alström syndrome**  
Hypogonadism  
Retinal degeneration  
Deafness  
Diabetes mellitus

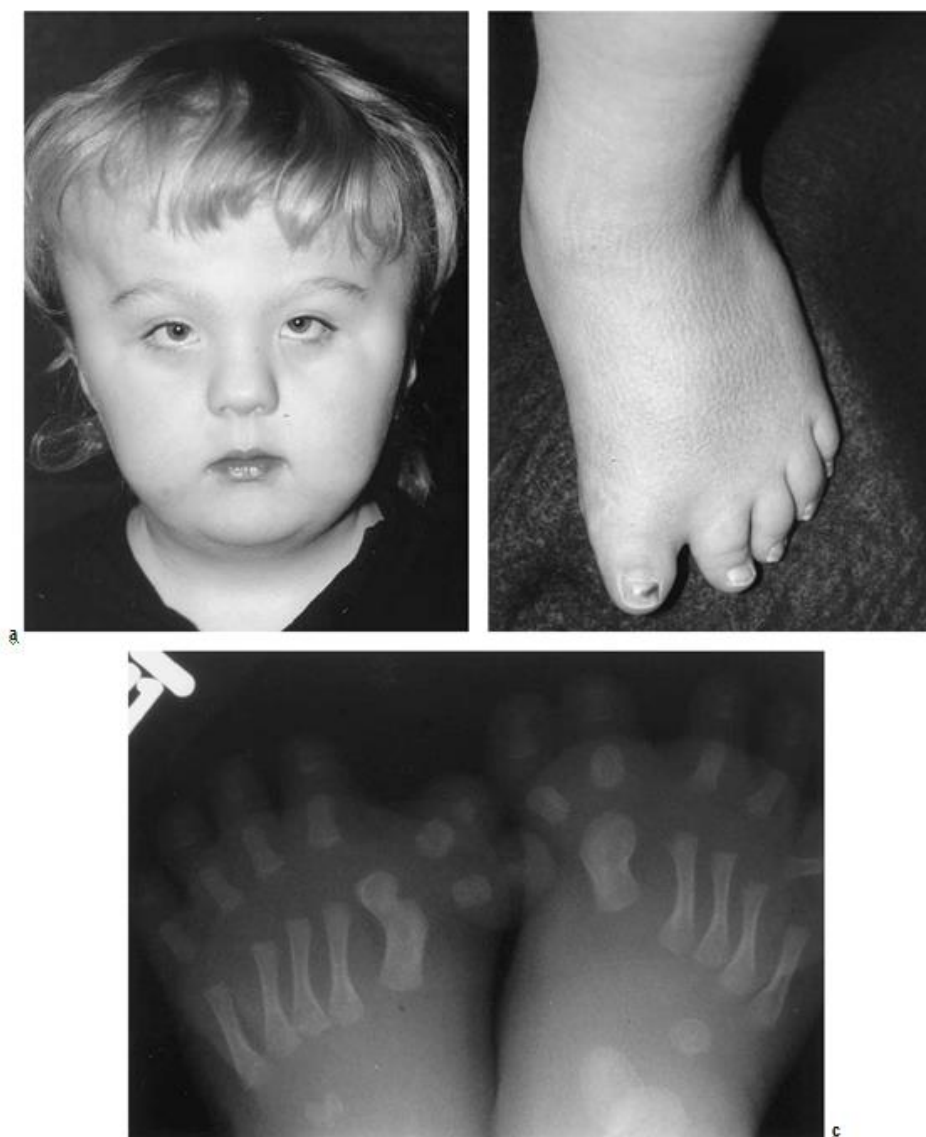


Fig. 26.5. a Carpenter syndrome with lambdoid craniosynostosis, low-set ears, short neck, obesity, down-slanting palpebral fissures and epicanthal folds. b Carpenter syndrome, with brachydactyly of the phalanges and partial soft tissue syndactyly. c, Carpenter syndrome, with polysyndactyly of the feet.

**Carpenter syndrome**  
Mental retardation  
Polydactily, syndactily  
Cranial synostosis



**Laurence-Moon-Bardet-Biedl syndrome**  
Retinal degeneration  
Syndactily  
Hypogonadism  
Mental retardation





**Down syndrome**



**Turner syndrome**



**Fröhlich syndrome**  
Disorder of hypothalamic  
regulation  
hypogonadism

# Prader-Willi syndrome

Chromosome 15, uniparental dysomy

Complex hypothalamic dysregulation: instable body temperature, tantrums, apnoe, hypogonadism, overeating



**Newborn:**

Low birth weight

Low muscle tone

Failure to thrive

Cryptorchidism

Small hands and feet



→ *Growth hormone treatment from 6 mo increases muscle tone and muscle/fat ratio*



## Rare causes: endocrine disorders

### HYPOTHYROIDISM



### Hypothyroidism:

small weight gain  
growth retardation

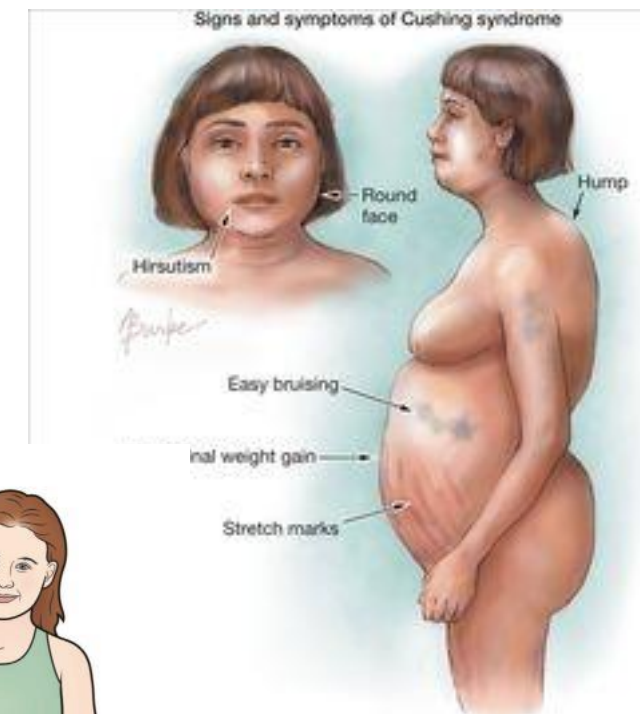
cold intolerance, fatigue, jaundice, constipation, etc

### Cushing syndrome (cortisol overproduction):

sudden, significant weight gain

growth retardation

hypertension, diabetes, hypokalemia, etc

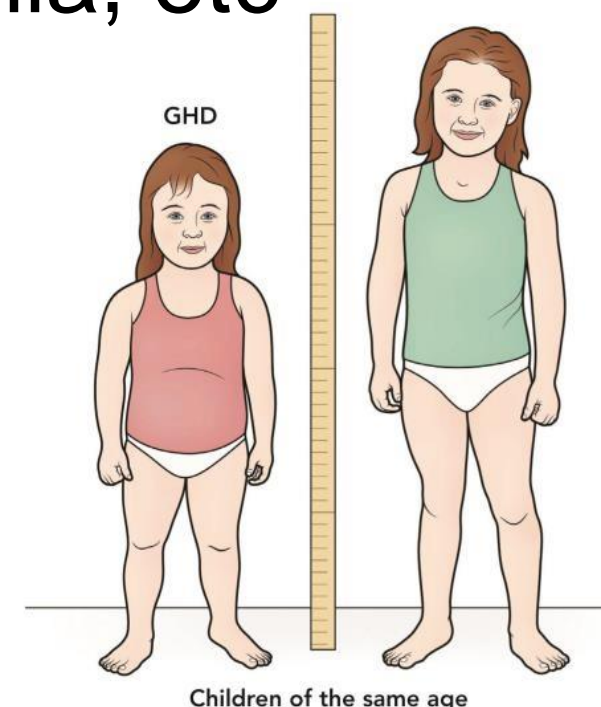


### Growth hormone deficiency:

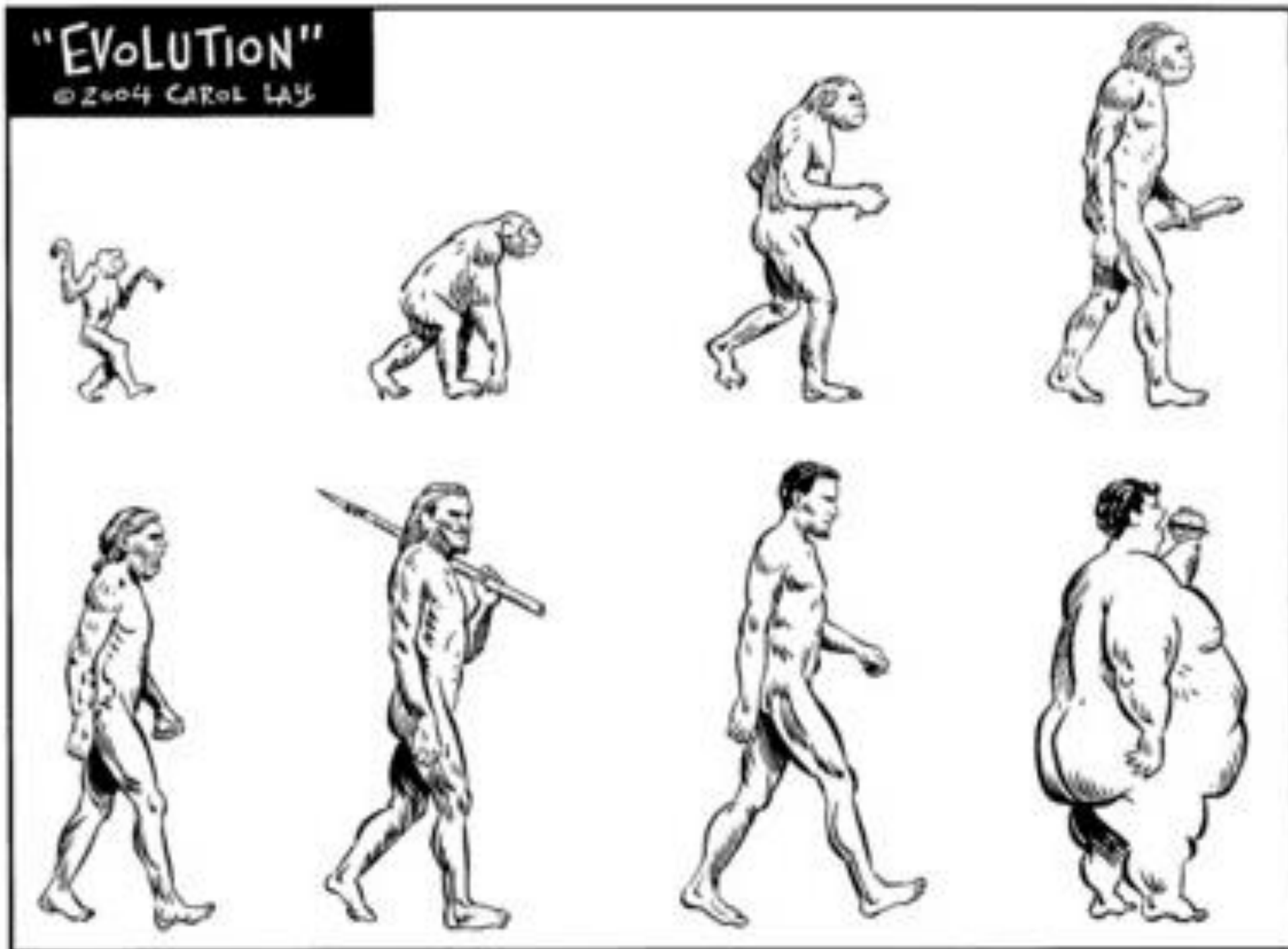
growth retardation

minimal weight gain,

decreased muscle/fat ratio



# Common: idiopathic obesity





# How frequent?



- Worldwide 1,5 billion overweight adults
- Younger than 5 five years: *42 million*, 35 million in developing countries

Figure 1. Obesity among adults, 2012 or nearest year

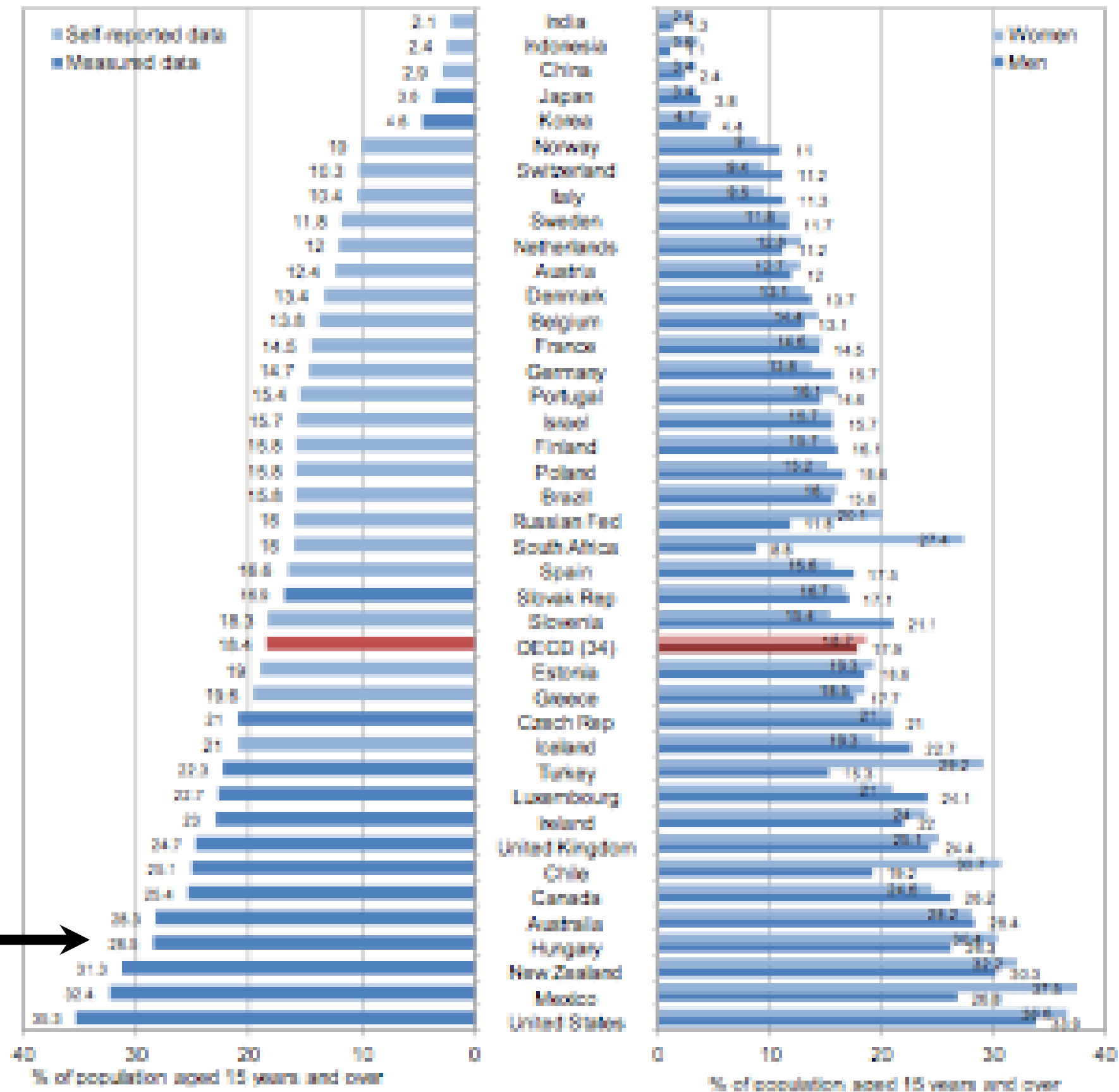
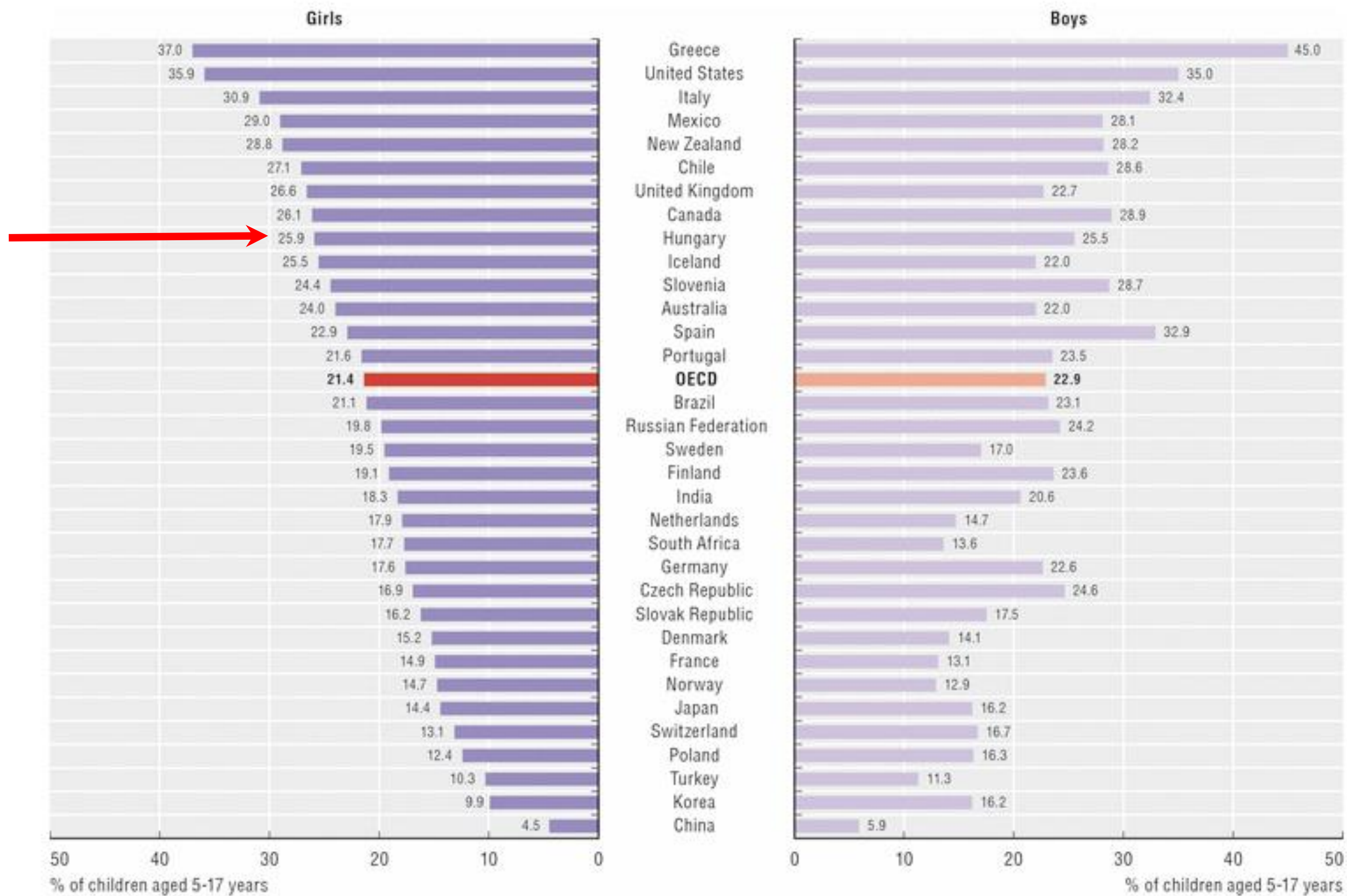
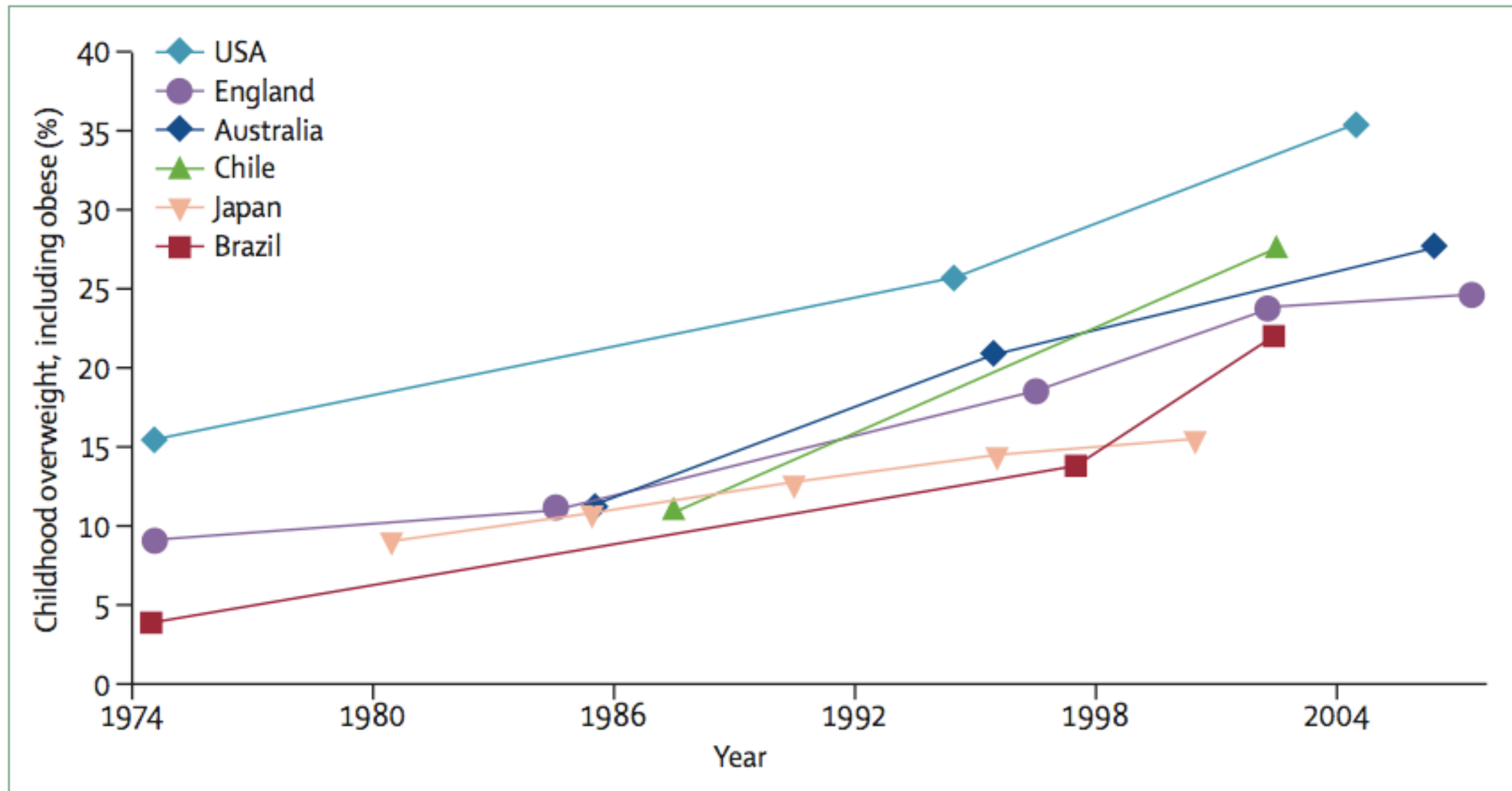


Figure 2.4.1 Children aged 5-17 years who are overweight (including obese), latest available estimates



# Worldwide trends in childhood obesity

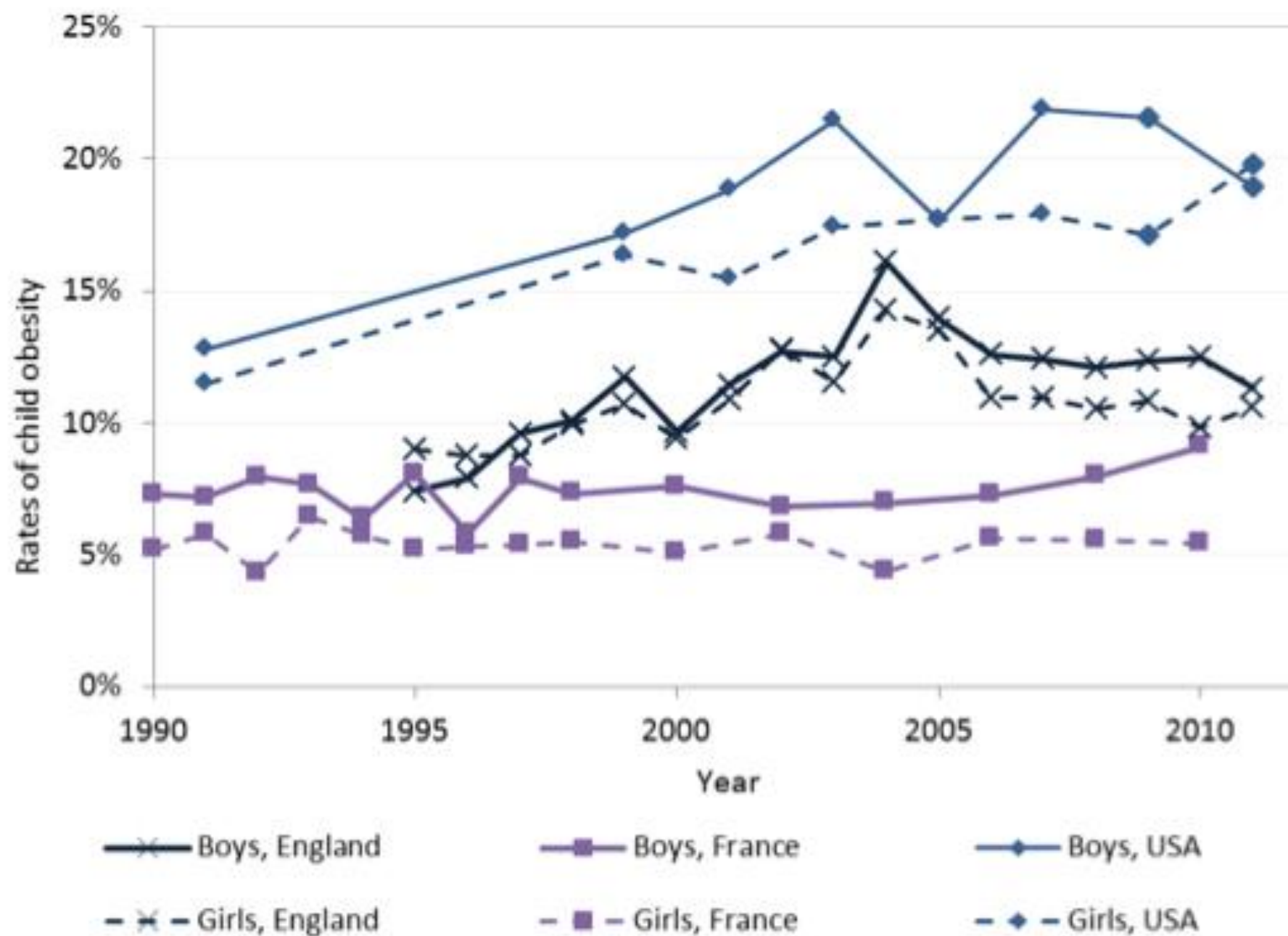


**Figure 1: Estimates of percentage of childhood population overweight, including obese (with use of International Obesity Taskforce cutoffs) in a selection of countries**

Based on data from Wang and Lobstein,<sup>11</sup> International Association for the Study of Obesity,<sup>12</sup> and Matsushita and colleagues.<sup>13</sup>

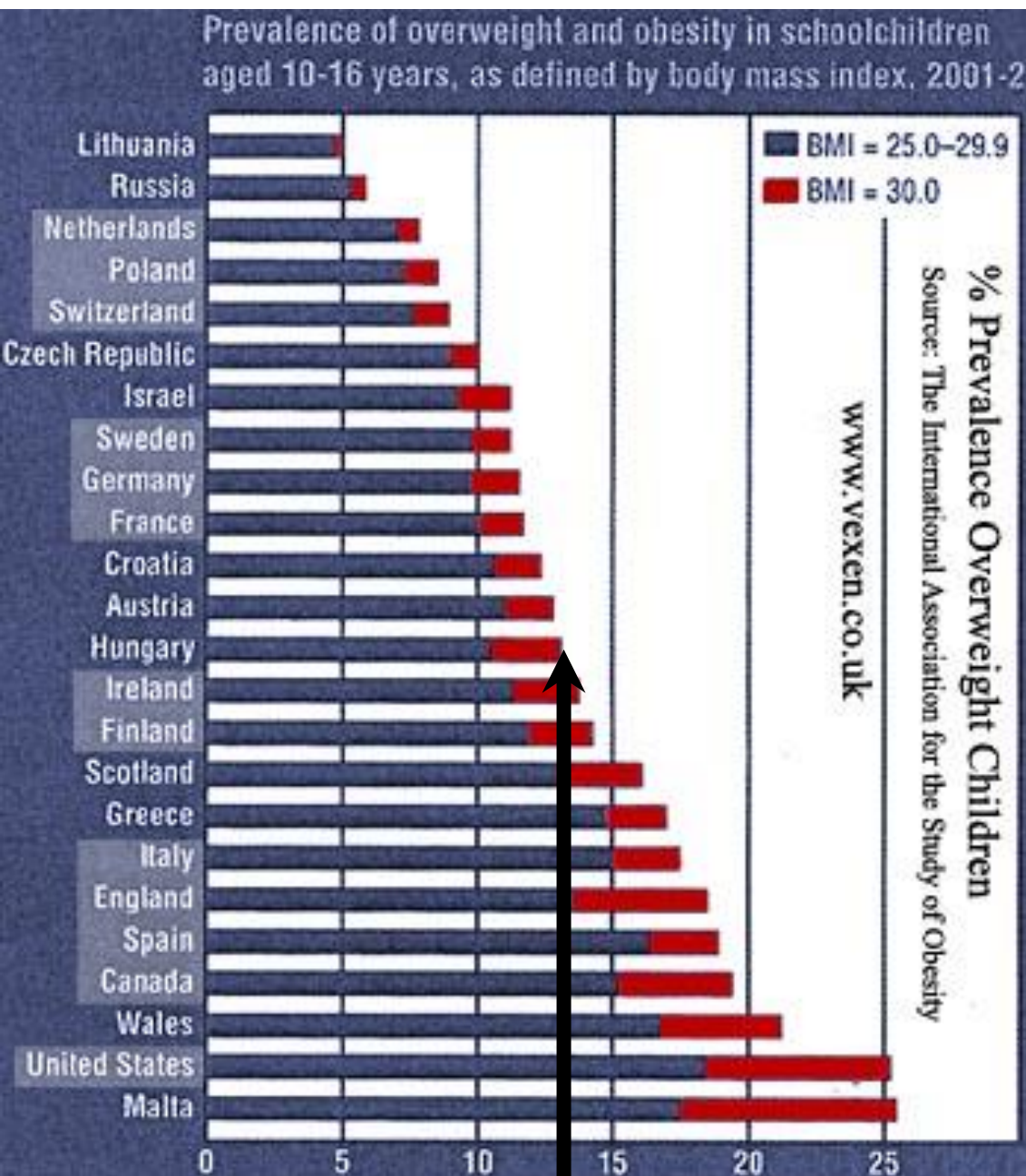


# Figure 3. Trends in child obesity, age 3-17



# Childhood obesity trends in Hungary

2001



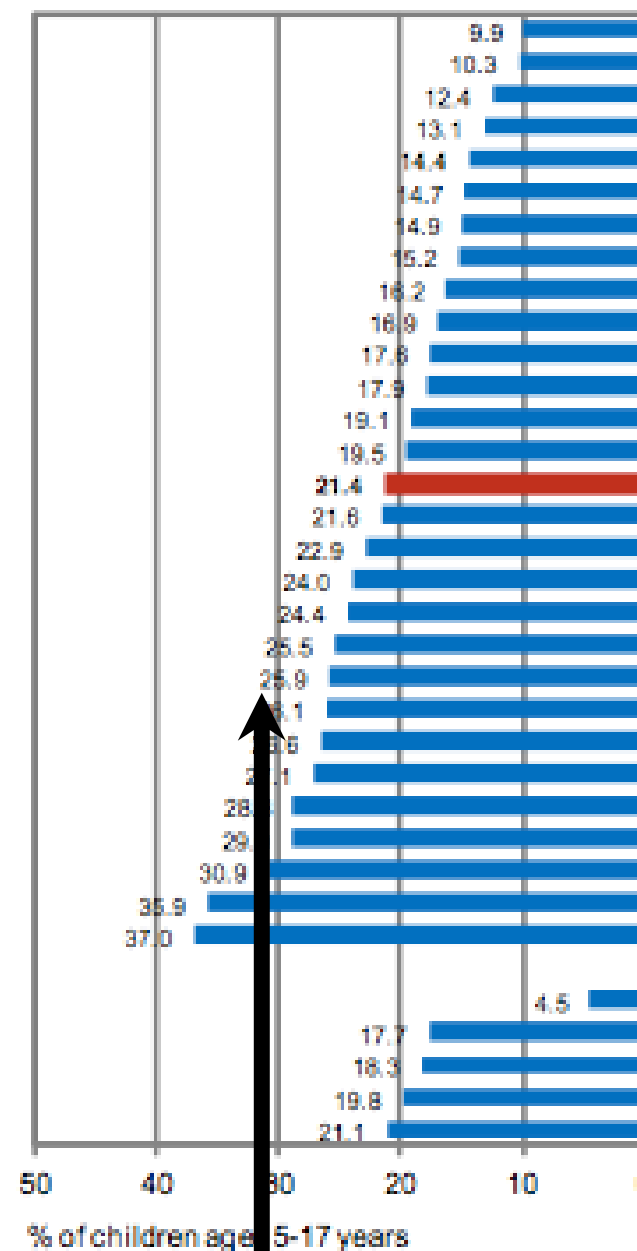
13%

2012

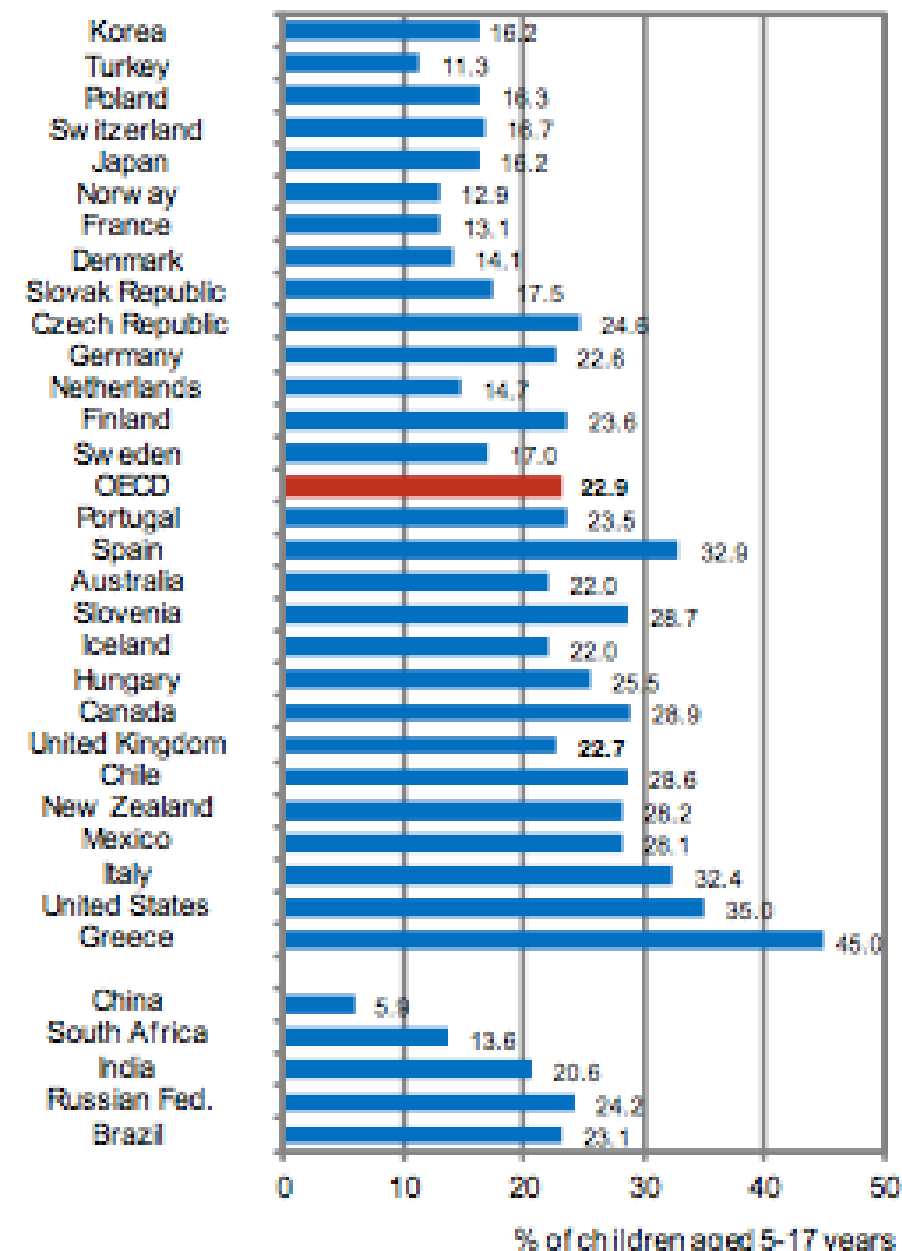
Children aged 5-17 years who are overweight (including obese), latest available estimates

Girls

Boys



25%

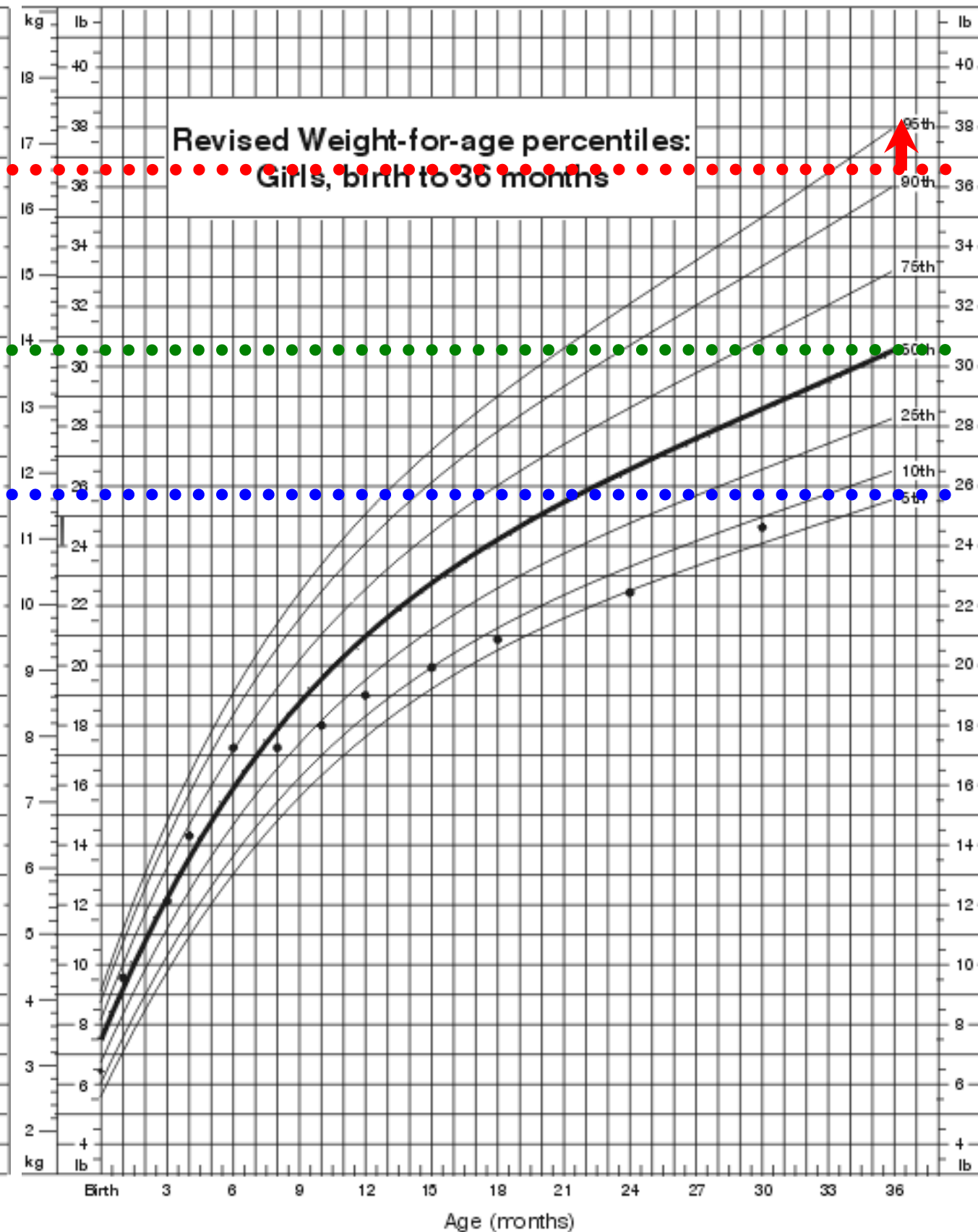
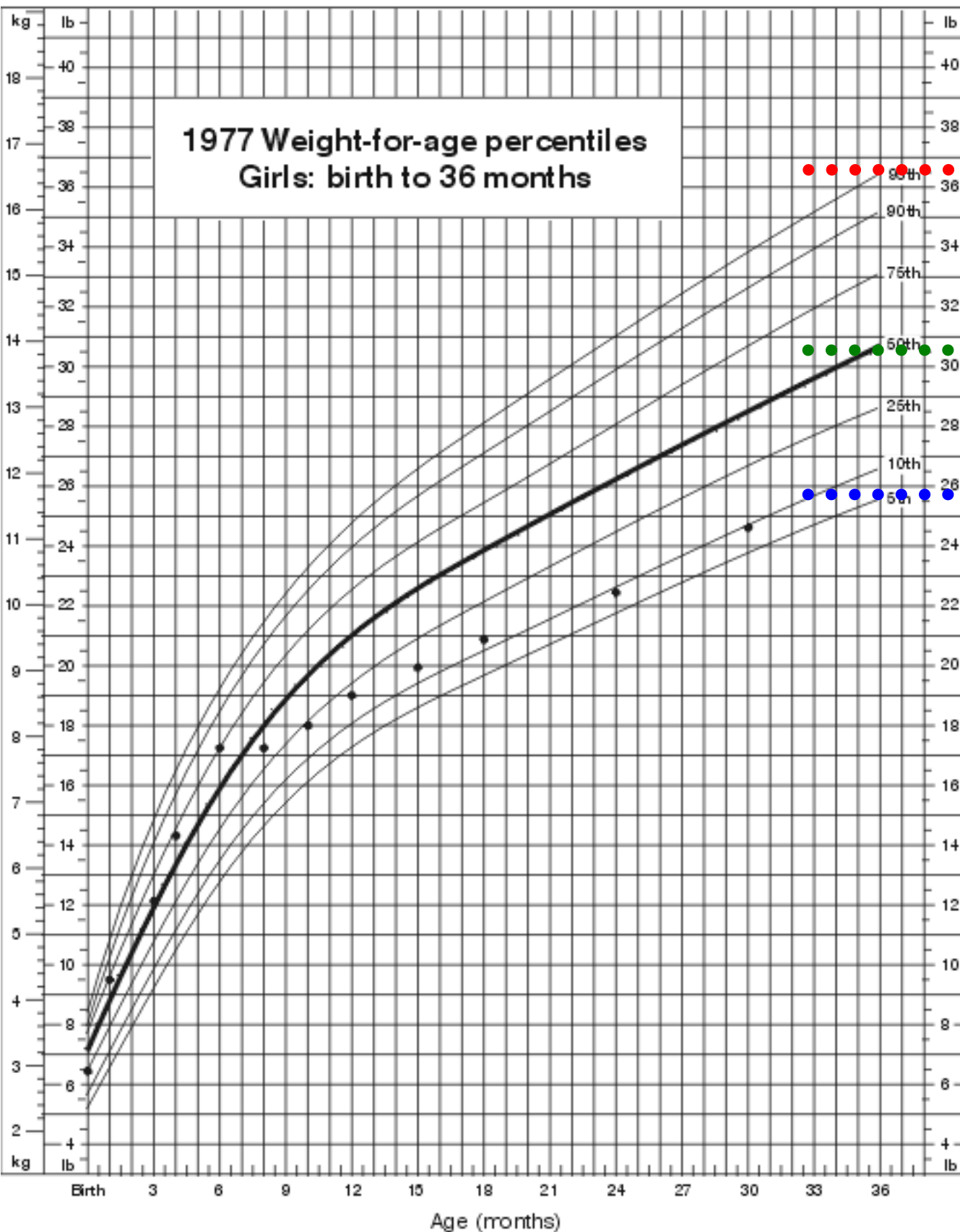


Statlink: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888993252399>

1977

3x

2000





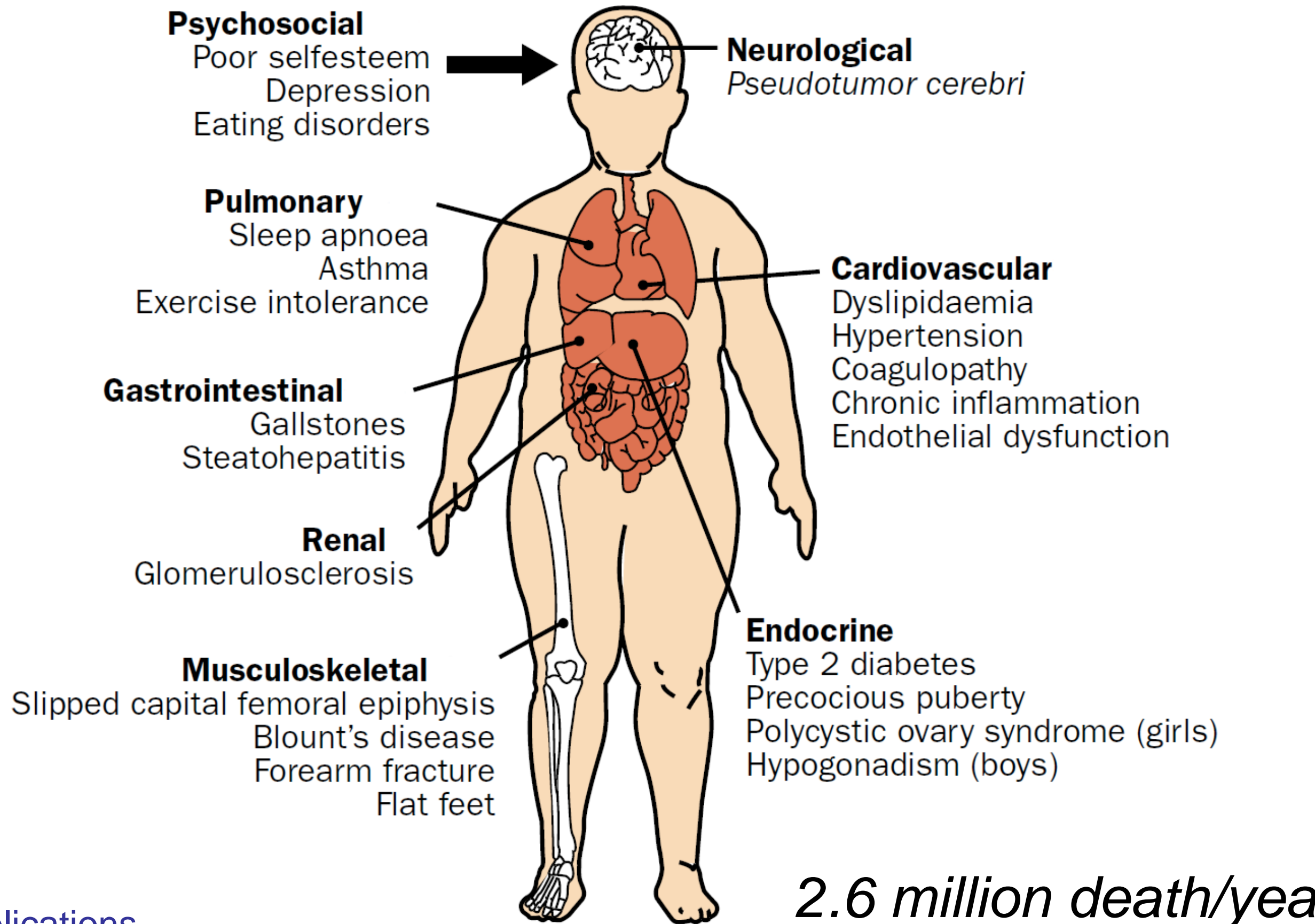
# Do obese children become obese adults? – most likely

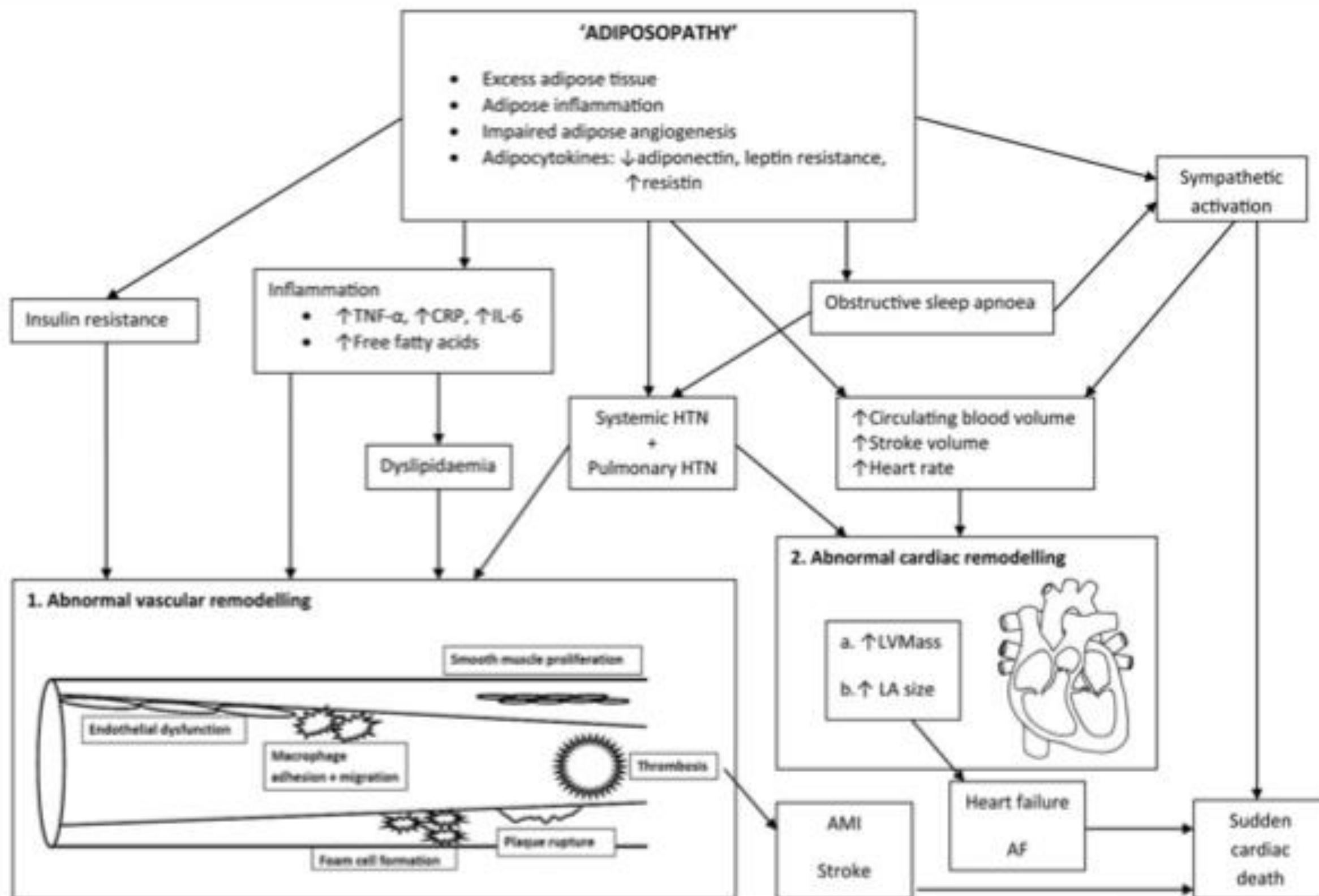
- 26-41% of overweight preschoolers
- 42-63% of overweight school children become obese adults
- Obese kids have a double chance to grow up to be obese adults than normal kids



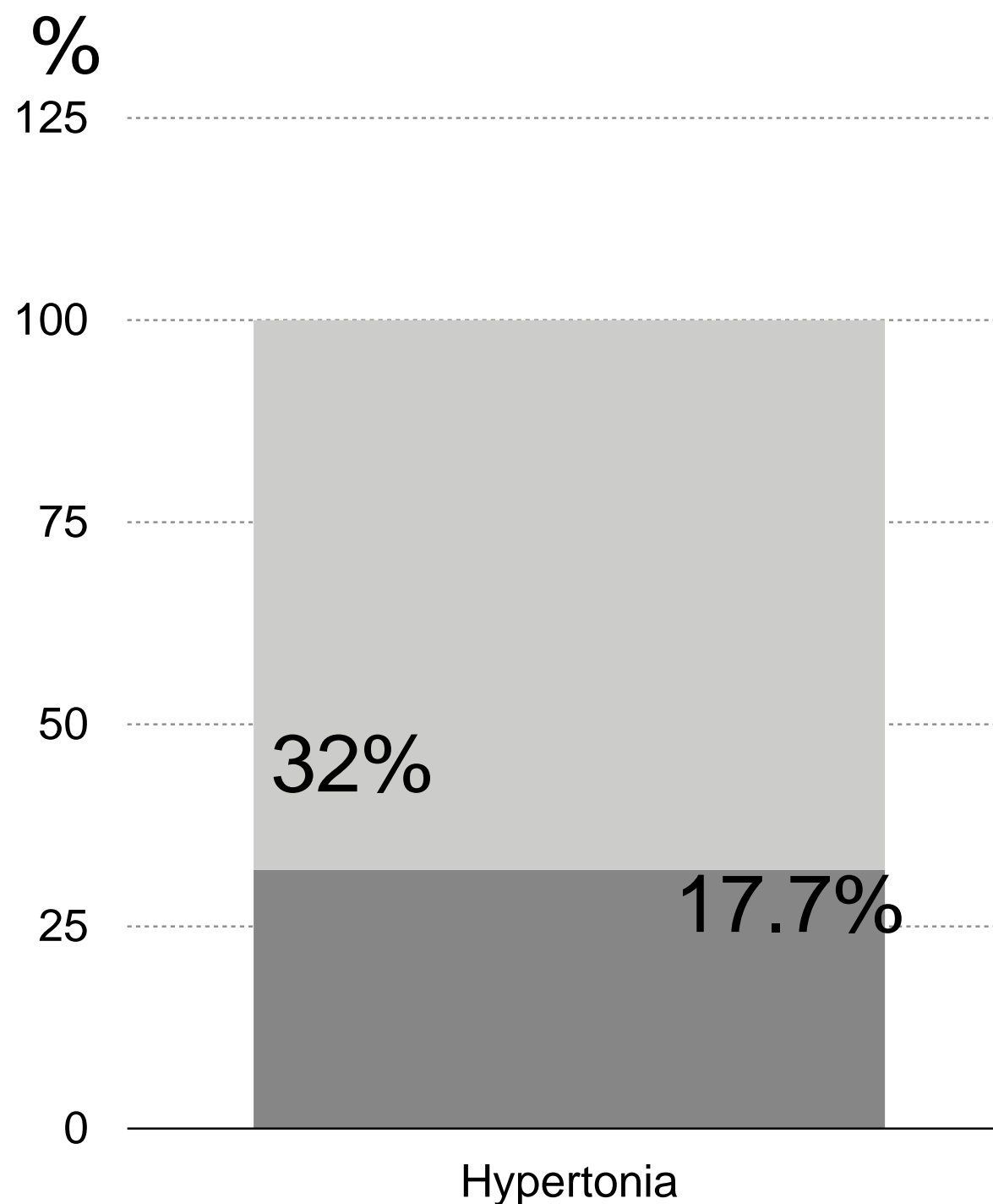


# COMPLICATIONS OF CHILDHOOD OBESITY





## 4. Complications



n=902 (8 years period, every  
2nd year)  
age average 12.5 years

girls  
n=492  
BMI average +4.4 SDS

boys  
n=410  
BMI average +4.1 SDS

# Size (and time) matter: Continuous overweight since childhood increases the risk of complications in adulthood



Associations between patterns of overweight in childhood, adolescence and adulthood and cardiovascular outcomes in three British birth cohorts, from logistic regression analyses.

Overweight pattern	Weight status <sup>*</sup>			n	Adult BMI Mean (SD)	Hypertension OR (95% CI)	Type 2 diabetes OR (95% CI)	CHD OR (95% CI)
	Childhood	Adolescence	Adulthood					
Never overweight	0	0	0	8,587	24.4 (2.79)	1	1	1
Childhood only	1	0	0	374	25.3 (2.53)	0.87 (0.54 to 1.40)	0.99 (0.35 to 2.80)	0.44 (0.20 to 1.89)
Adolescence only	0	1	0	397	26.5 (2.38)	0.97 (0.61 to 1.55)	0.88 (0.31 to 2.50)	1.63 (0.37 to 7.19)
Adulthood only	0	0	1	1,144	33.3 (4.64)	2.28 (1.76 to 2.95)	5.47 (3.39 to 8.82)	3.83 (1.98 to 7.42)
Childhood+adolescence	1	1	0	161	26.4 (2.20)	1.01 (0.46 to 2.21)	1.24 (0.29 to 5.25)	3.43 (0.60 to 19.64)
Childhood+adulthood	1	0	1	130	34.0 (4.78)	2.91 (1.54 to 5.49)	4.70 (1.89 to 11.67)	1.10 (0.14 to 8.48)
Adolescence+adulthood	0	1	1	388	35.0 (4.61)	3.01 (2.11 to 4.29)	6.61 (3.61 to 12.09)	3.74 (1.35 to 10.35)
Persistent overweight <sup>†</sup>	1	1	1	266	36.4 (4.82)	2.56 (1.40 to 4.68)	12.60 (6.61 to 23.98)	6.62 (1.94 to 22.65)

Park MH, Sovio U, Viner RM, Hardy RJ, Kinra S. Overweight in childhood, adolescence and adulthood and cardiovascular risk in later life: pooled analysis of three british birth cohorts. PLoS One. 2013 Jul 24;8(7):e70684.



**TABLE 2.** For males measured in 1963–1975, relative risks of death (cause-specific and overall mortality) with 95% confidence intervals, adjusted for age and birth year, by body mass index in adolescence, Norway

Cause of death	Body mass index category ([weight in kg]/[height in meters] <sup>2</sup> ) in adolescence*											p value†
	<25th (942,487 person-years)			25th–74th (2,539,557 person-years)‡		75th–94th (307,375 person-years)			≥85th (207,816 person-years)			
	No. of deaths	RR§	95% CI§	No. of deaths	RR	No. of deaths	RR	95% CI	No. of deaths	RR	95% CI	
Malignant neoplasms	265	0.9	0.8, 1.0	836	1.0	101	1.0	0.8, 1.2	77	1.2	0.9, 1.5	0.2
Colon	21	1.0	0.6, 1.6	59	1.0	7	1.0	0.4, 2.2	10	2.1	1.1, 4.1	0.1
Larynx and trachea/bronchus/lung	57	1.1	0.8, 1.5	144	1.0	16	0.9	0.6, 1.5	13	1.2	0.7, 2.0	0.5
Lymphatic/hematopoietic tissue	57	1.1	0.8, 1.5	139	1.0	15	0.9	0.5, 1.5	13	1.2	0.7, 2.1	0.3
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	38	1.4	1.0, 2.1	68	1.0	19	2.4	1.4, 4.0	13	2.5	1.4, 4.5	0.5
Diabetes mellitus	32	1.7	1.1, 2.6	49	1.0	12	2.1	1.1, 4.0	7	1.9	0.8, 4.1	0.1
Mental and behavioral disorders	87	1.2	0.9, 1.6	197	1.0	17	0.7	0.4, 1.2	12	0.7	0.4, 1.3	0.05
Diseases of the circulatory system	240	1.0	0.8, 1.1	660	1.0	139	1.8	1.5, 2.1	129	2.5	2.1, 3.0	<0.001
Ischemic heart diseases	149	1.0	0.8, 1.2	411	1.0	89	1.8	1.5, 2.3	93	2.9	2.3, 3.6	<0.001
Other heart diseases	24	0.8	0.5, 1.2	62	1.0	14	1.4	0.8, 2.5	12	1.8	1.0, 3.4	0.2
Cerebrovascular diseases	52	1.2	0.9, 1.7	115	1.0	17	1.2	0.7, 2.0	18	1.9	1.2, 3.2	1.0
Diseases of the respiratory system	30	1.5	1.0, 2.4	52	1.0	7	1.1	0.5, 2.5	11	2.7	1.4, 5.2	0.1
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	13	1.4	0.7, 2.8	25	1.0	4	1.3	0.5, 3.8	8	4.1	1.8, 9.0	0.8
Digestive system diseases	64	1.2	0.9, 1.6	144	1.0	16	0.9	0.5, 1.5	16	1.4	0.8, 2.3	0.1
Chronic liver disease	48	1.3	0.9, 1.8	99	1.0	13	1.1	0.6, 1.9	10	1.3	0.7, 2.4	0.3
Symptoms, signs, abnormal findings, ill-defined causes	41	0.7	0.5, 1.1	147	1.0	24	1.4	0.9, 2.1	20	1.7	1.1, 2.7	0.02
Sudden death	16	0.7	0.4, 1.2	62	1.0	8	1.1	0.5, 2.3	11	2.2	1.2, 4.3	0.003
External causes of injury and poisoning	574	1.0	0.9, 1.1	1,526	1.0	172	0.9	0.8, 1.1	137	1.1	0.9, 1.3	0.9
Suicide and intentional self-harm	186	1.1	0.9, 1.3	454	1.0	62	1.1	0.9, 1.5	37	1.0	0.7, 1.4	0.7
Other	107	1.0	0.8, 1.3	265	1.0	33	1.0	0.7, 1.4	29	1.3	0.9, 1.9	0.6
Total	1,466	1.0	0.9, 1.1	3,915	1.0	528	1.1	1.0, 1.2	444	1.4	1.3, 1.6	0.006

\* Categorized according to percentiles in a US reference population (18).

† p value for test of linear trend using body mass index in eight categories (<3rd, 3rd–4th, 5th–9th, 10th–24th, 25th–74th, 75th–84th, 85th–94th, ≥95th) as a continuous variable.

‡ Reference category.

§ RR, relative risk; CI, confidence interval.



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Advance Access publication May 13, 2008

**Body Mass Index in Adolescence in Relation to Cause-specific Mortality:  
A Follow-up of 230,000 Norwegian Adolescents**

# 10% weight loss:

- -10 Hgmm BP
- Fasting glucose -50% in T2DM
- -10% cholesterol
- -20% all cause mortality
- -30% diabetes related mortality
- -40% obesity related mortality

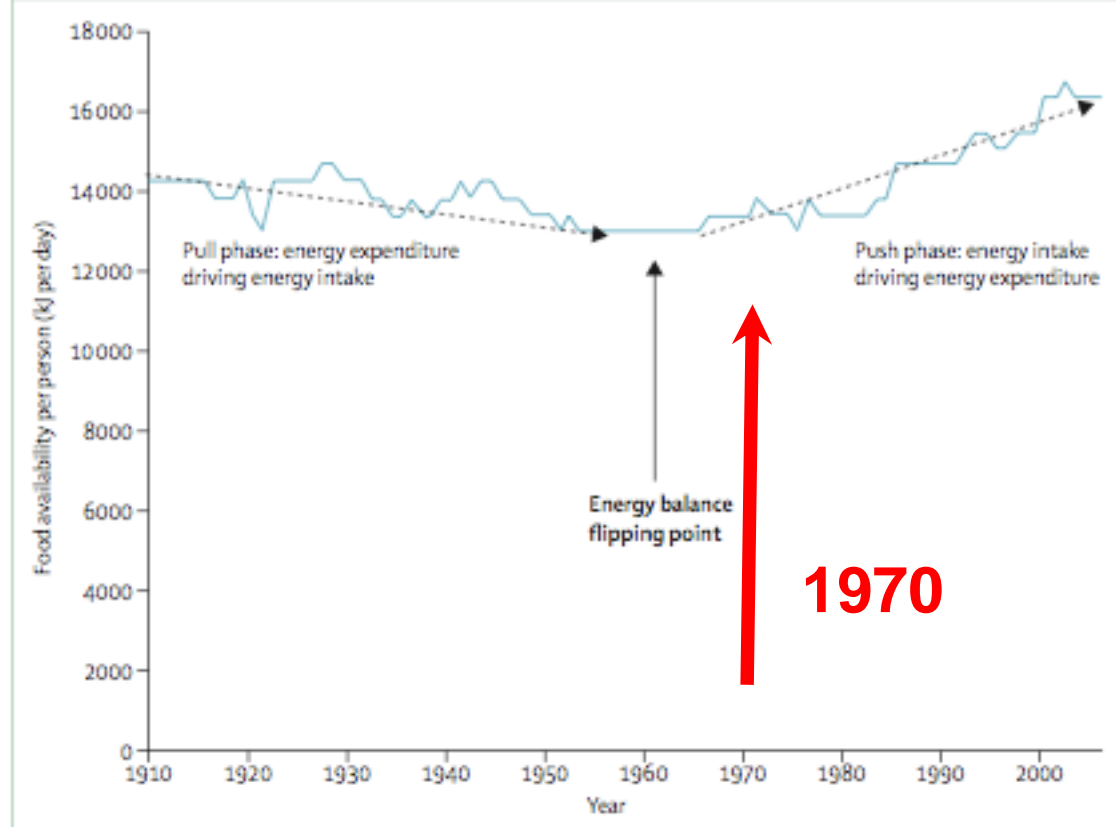
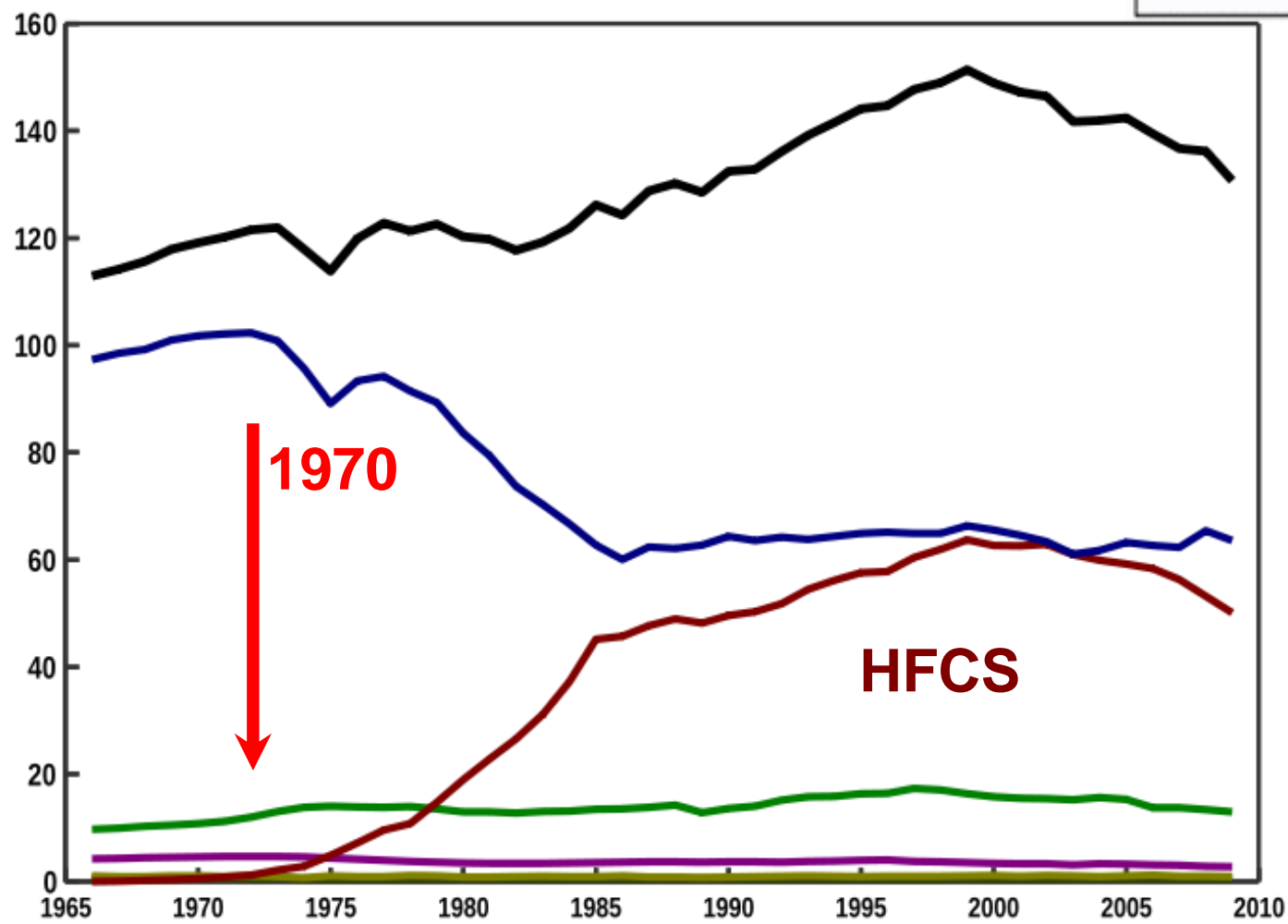
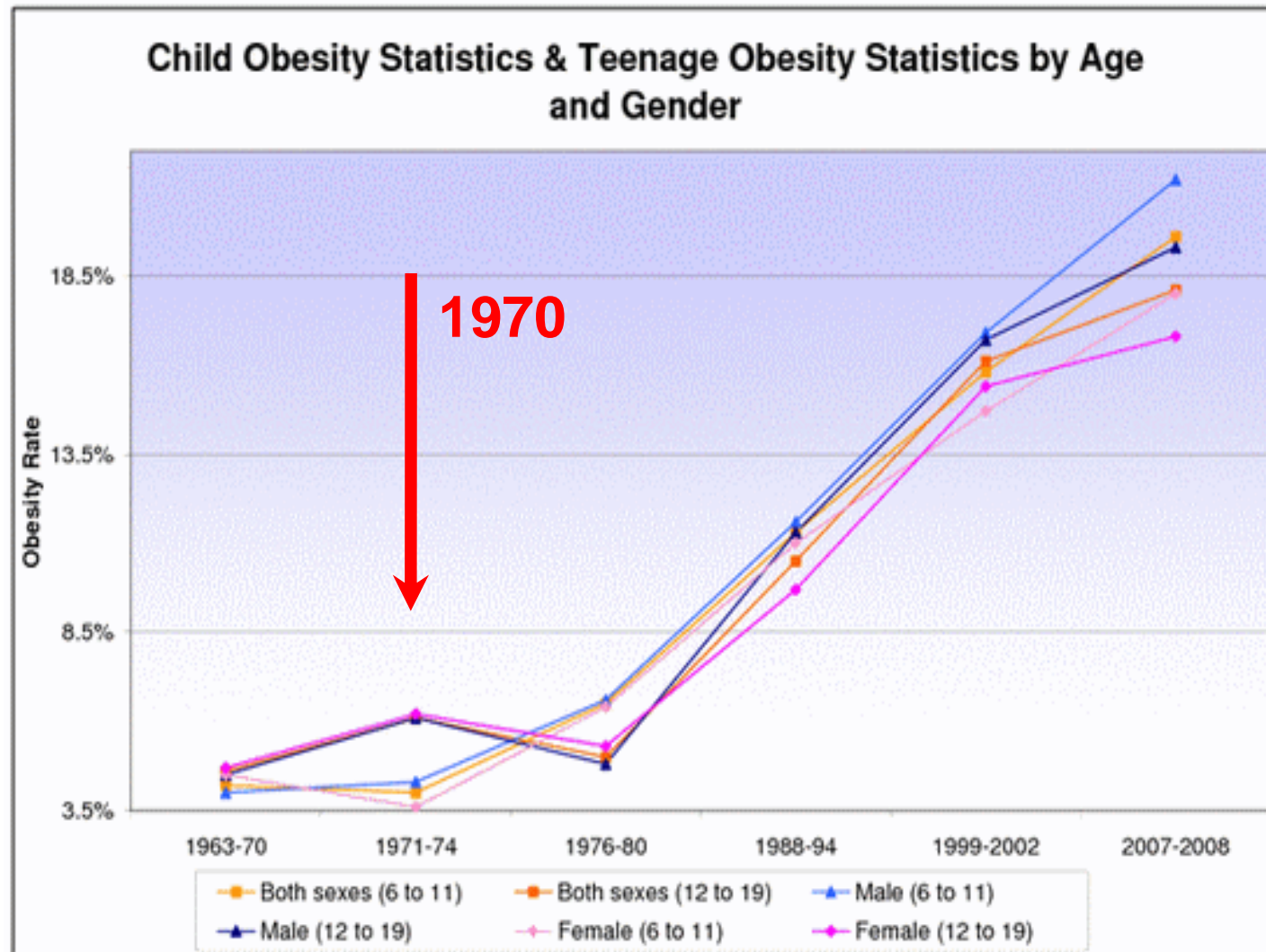


Figure 3: Food availability for the USA, 1910–2006<sup>18</sup>

There are two distinct phases: a decrease in food energy supply (postulated to be pulled down by reduced energy expenditure requirements for daily living), followed by an increase in food energy supply (postulated to be pushed up by increasing food access). An energy balance flipping point is proposed, marking the change in how the US population generally achieved energy balance.

*Lancet* 2011; 378: 804–14



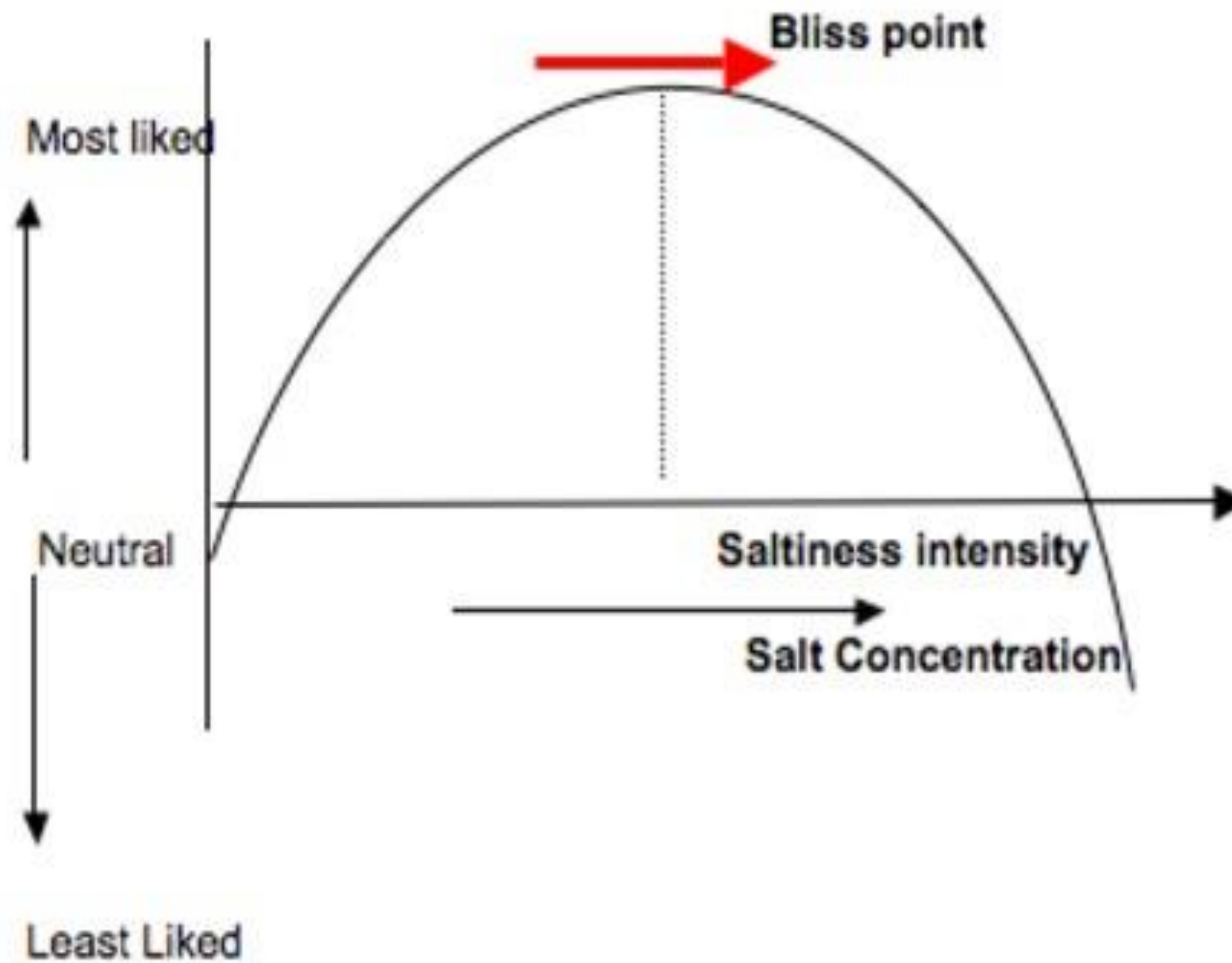
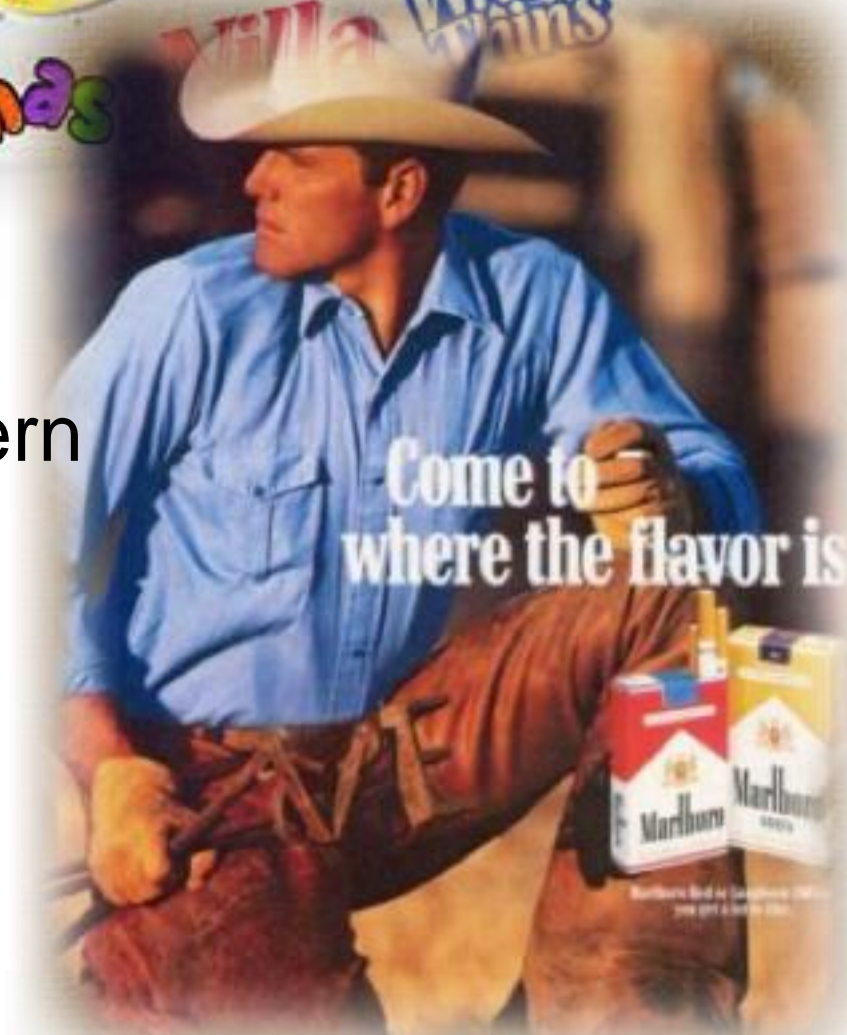


Figure 1. Bliss point graph. Relationship between salt (sodium chloride) concentration, saltiness intensity, and optimal level of liking demonstrated on the bliss point model.





- ◆ same brain areas are activated
- ◆ similar sensitization, compulsion and relapse pattern
- ◆ food environment helps addictive-type behaviour(ads, availability, larger serving sizes)
- ◆ animals: cross-sensitization between sucrose and amphetamine











# What's the cause of “idiopathic” obesity?

Energy disbalance: larger energy intake than expenditure

**“Obesitogenic environment”**: obesity is a normal response of healthy people to an unhealthy environment

*Lancet 2011; 378: 804–14*



# Therapy of obesity in childhood:

- Lifestyle modification:
  - Increase physical activity
  - Decrease calorie intake
- Medications
- Bariatric surgery

# What to do?



## GLOBAL STRATEGY ON DIET, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH

In May 2004, the 57th World Health Assembly (WHA) endorsed the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. The Strategy was developed through a wide-ranging series of consultations with all concerned stakeholders in response to a request from Member States at World Health Assembly 2002 (Resolution WHA55.23).

**Environmental/population change:**



*America's Move to Raise a  
Healthier Generation of Kids*

**Individual:**  
Correction of energy balance

**BUT:** children depend on  
their families and  
community!



HOW'S THE  
DIET  
GOING?!

Who?  
Where?  
How frequent?  
Which diet?  
What type of activity?



Involve family!!!!  
Frequent visits!!!!







A BALANCED  
DIET IS  
CHOCOLATE  
IN BOTH HANDS

- minimum 1000 kcal/day!
- daily -500 kcal / weekly -0,5 kg
- cca. 60-20-20%



Traffic Light Foods: How To Talk To Kids About Real Food

Red Light Foods = Foods To Avoid

Yellow Light Foods = Sometimes Foods

Green Light Foods = Go Foods





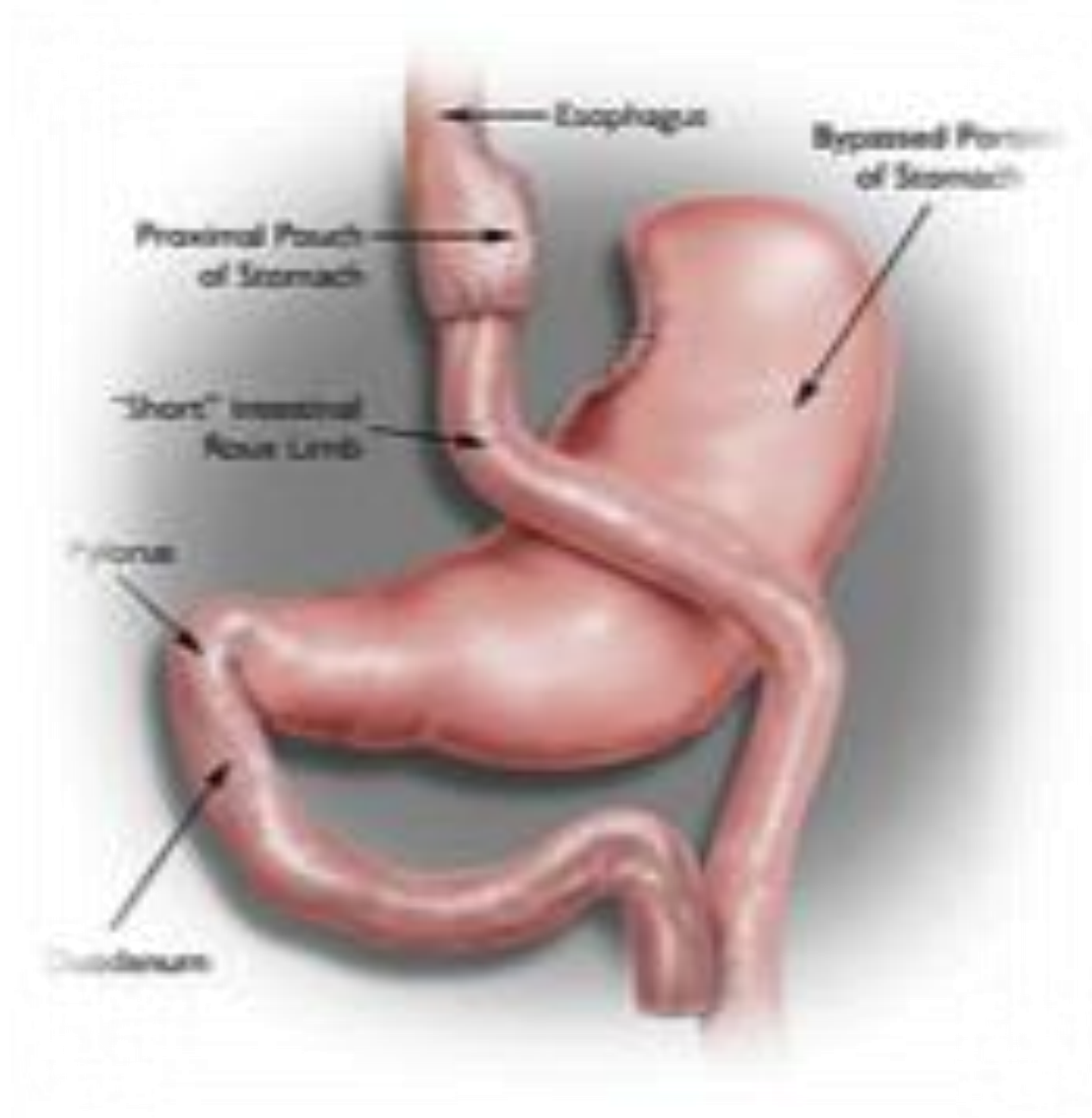
# Weight loss pills

Eg. Orlistat, caffeine



# Bariatric surgery

Extreme obesity (BMI > 35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) + serious complication  
Not routine!



Gold standard: Roux-en-Y bypass



# Complications: screen and treat!

- Hypercholesterolemia
  - statins >10 years
- T2DM, IGT
  - metformin >10 years
- Hypertension
  - ACEi, ARB
- Androgen excess



# Bottomline

- Genetic and endocrine obesity is rare, other symptoms!
- Idiopathic obesity is very frequent and increasing
- Work-up: rule out underlying disease
- Life style modification: Weight-loss programs: family and frequent visits
- Childhood obesity is strongly associated with childhood poverty





PEPSI  
11.3g  
SUGAR

1 ENERGY  
DRINK  
26.5g  
SUGAR

Coca Cola  
34.8g  
SUGAR

Red Bull  
27.5g  
SUGAR



