

**Table 1:** Girls aged 15-20 years: summary of percentage point differences in nutritional status prevalence for age-specific BMI cut-offs compared to WHO adult BMI cut-offs according to 63 pooled DHS datasets

Age <sup>3</sup>	Percentage point difference in prevalence estimates between adult and adolescent cutoffs <sup>1</sup>										N
	WHO BAZ		Thinness cut-off (<18.5kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		Thinness cut-off (<17kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		Overweight (25-<30kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		Obese (≥30kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		
	<-2	<-1	IOTF grade 2 <sup>2</sup>	IOTF grade 1 <sup>2</sup>	WHO BAZ <-2	IOTF grade 2 <sup>2</sup>	WHO BAZ >+1	IOTF overweight	WHO BAZ >+2	IOTF obese	
15	31.5	8.3	30.0	12.5	9.8	8.4	-2.4	-1.7	-0.4	-0.1	20,404,243
16	26.5	3.3	24.1	6.3	6.2	3.8	-1.6	-1.1	-0.4	-0.1	20,085,253
17	22.7	0.1	19.0	1.8	4.7	1.0	-1.2	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1	18,886,741
18	20.8	-1.7	17.0	0	3.8	0	-0.3	0	-0.2	0	21,537,586
19	19.1	-2.5	15.6	0	3.5	0	0.1	0	-0.2	0	17,546,153
20	18.4	-2.1	15.3	0	3.2	0	0.1	0	-0.2	0	20,568,204

Note: Data pooled from 63 DHS surveys conducted between 2001-2020. Sampling weights from country surveys were denormalized using a denormalization factor calculated from the total country population of females or males age 15-49 in the survey year and the total number of women or men interviewed in the survey. The full list of surveys is listed in appendix 2. Data from Bangladesh only included adolescents 18-19 years.

<sup>1</sup>The percentage point difference was calculated by subtracting the prevalence estimates from the standard adult BMI classifications for thinness (<18.5kg/m<sup>2</sup>) or moderate thinness (<17kg/m<sup>2</sup>), overweight (25-<30kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and obesity (≥30kg/m<sup>2</sup>)

<sup>2</sup>IOTF grade 1 thinness includes grades 2 and 3; IOTF grade 2 thinness includes grade 3. BAZ=BMI-for-age z-score based on WHO 2007 reference

<sup>3</sup>Estimates for WHO BAZ at 19+ years and IOTF 18+ years were calculated by creating a dummy age variable set to 228 months for BAZ and 216 months for IOTF.