



CAUSES OF OBESITY

Obesity is a disease, not a lifestyle choice. Causes of obesity can range from geneticⁱ and endocrineⁱⁱ conditions to environmental factorsⁱⁱⁱ such as stress, diet, increasingly sedentary working patterns and obesogenic environment^{iv}

GENES

Genes can cause certain disorders which may result in obesity. Studies have identified more than 30 genes on 12 chromosomes that are associated with body mass index^v

WORK, LIFESTYLE & URBANISATION

An average European spends over 5 hours a day sitting downvi



People don't burn as many calories when working as they used to:

1960 Men 1500kcal Women 1300kcal

2010 Men 1400kcal. Women 1200kcalvii

15-13% reduction

60% 9%



Europeans who prefer using cars for daily commuting and long distance travel

Europeans who use **public** transport (requiring greater activity) on a regular basisviii

European population living in urban areas^{ix}:

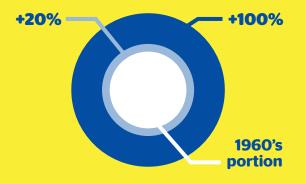




Increasing stigma towards people living with obesity^x

LARGER PORTIONS

Portion sizes of sugar-sweetened beverages, confectionary and snacks increased in size by between 20% and 100% since 1960^{xi}



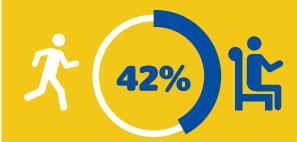
NUTRITION

Energy (kcal) imbalance. People in the EU are consuming 500kcal/day more than 40 years ago^{xii}



LACK OF ACTIVITY

42% of people don't ever exercise in the EU^{xiii}







REFERENCES

- i Genetics of obesity and the prediction of risk for health, Andrew J. Walley, Alexandra I.F. Blakemore and Philippe Froguel, 2006
- ii Obesity and endocrine disease, Kokkoris P, Pi-Sunyer FX. 2003
- iii World Health Organization http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/
- iv UK Government Office for Science https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/295681/07-735-obesogenic-environmentsreview.pdf
- V Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health, http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/obesity-prevention-source/obesity-causes/genes-and-obesity/)
- vi European Commission, Special Eurobarometer, Health and Food, 2006 http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_publication/eb_food_en.pdf
- vii Church TS, Thomas DM, Tudor-Locke C, Katzmarzyk PT, Earnest CP, Rodarte RQ, et al. (2011) Trends over 5 Decades in U.S. Occupation-Related Physical Activity and Their Associations with Obesity. PLoS ONE 6(5): e19657. doi:10.1371/journal. pone.0019657
- viii European Commission, Special Eurobarometer, Health and Food, 2006 http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_publication/eb_food_en.pdf
- ix United Nations World Urbanisation Prospects, 2014 revision http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/highlights/wup2014-highlights.pdf
- x North American Association for the Study of Obesity (NAASO) http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1038/oby.2008.636/full
- xi Matthiessen J., Fagt S., Biltoft-Jensen A., Beck A.M., Ovesen L. (2003) Size makes a difference. Public Health Nutrition, 6 (1), 65-72.
- xii FAOSTAT, Diet, nutrition and the prevention of chronic diseases: Report of a Joint WHO/FAO Expert Consultation, 2003 http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_determinants/life_style/nutrition/documents/nut_obe_prevention.pdf
- xiii European Commission, Special Eurobarometer, Sport and Physical Activity, 2014 http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_412_en.pdf



www.europeanobesityday.eu