Figure 1: Prevalence of obesity or overweight status in children aged 2–14 in New Zealand (statistics from the Ministry of Health Obesity Statistics 2022/2023).⁹

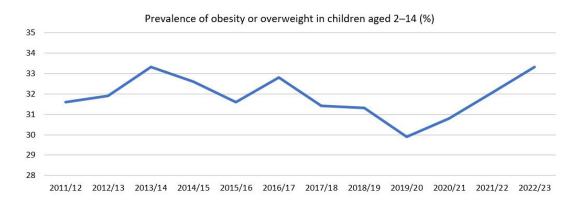
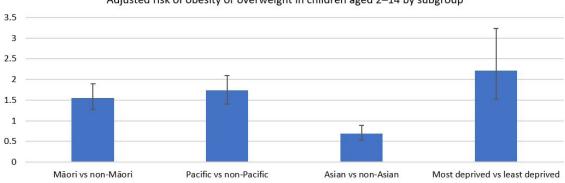


Figure 2: Adjusted risk ratio of obesity or overweight status in children aged 2–14 in New Zealand (statistics from the Ministry of Health Obesity Statistics 2022/2023).⁹



Adjusted risk of obesity or overweight in children aged 2–14 by subgroup

Figure 3: The obesogenic environment and the upstream causes of obesity. The obesogenic environment, a term coined by Swinburn et al., refers to the collective physical, economic, political and socio-cultural factors that promote obesity in individuals and populations.¹¹ Broader systemic conditions have resulted in changes in the built (food and physical) environment that promote high energy intake and sedentary behaviour. This is further modulated by the social (cultural and economic) environment, which exacerbates or mitigates the effects of the upstream obesogenic drivers on individual behaviour.

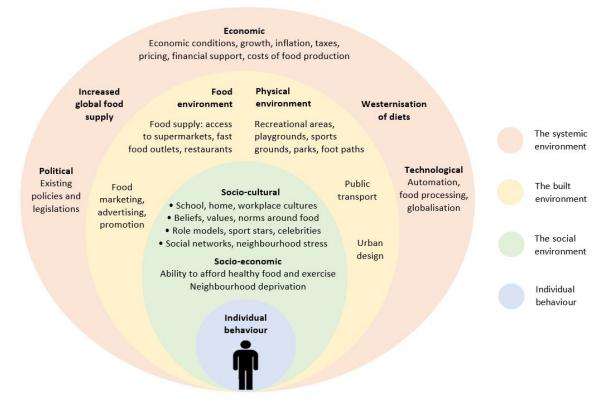


Figure 4: Priority actions recommended by the 2023 Healthy Food Environment Policy Index (Food-EPI) expert panel for implementation by the New Zealand government.⁸

Infrastructure support actions

- 1. Implement a comprehensive national action plan for obesity prevention
- 2. Set priorities in Statements of Intent and set targets for reducing childhood obesity, reducing salt, sugar and
- saturated fat intake, and food composition

Policy actions

- 1. Introduce an excise tax of at least 20% on sugar-sweetened beverages
- 2. Reduce the promotion of unhealthy foods to children by restricting marketing in media and schools
- 3. Implement the front-of-pack Health Star Rating labelling system
- 4. Ensure that foods provided in schools meet dietary guidelines