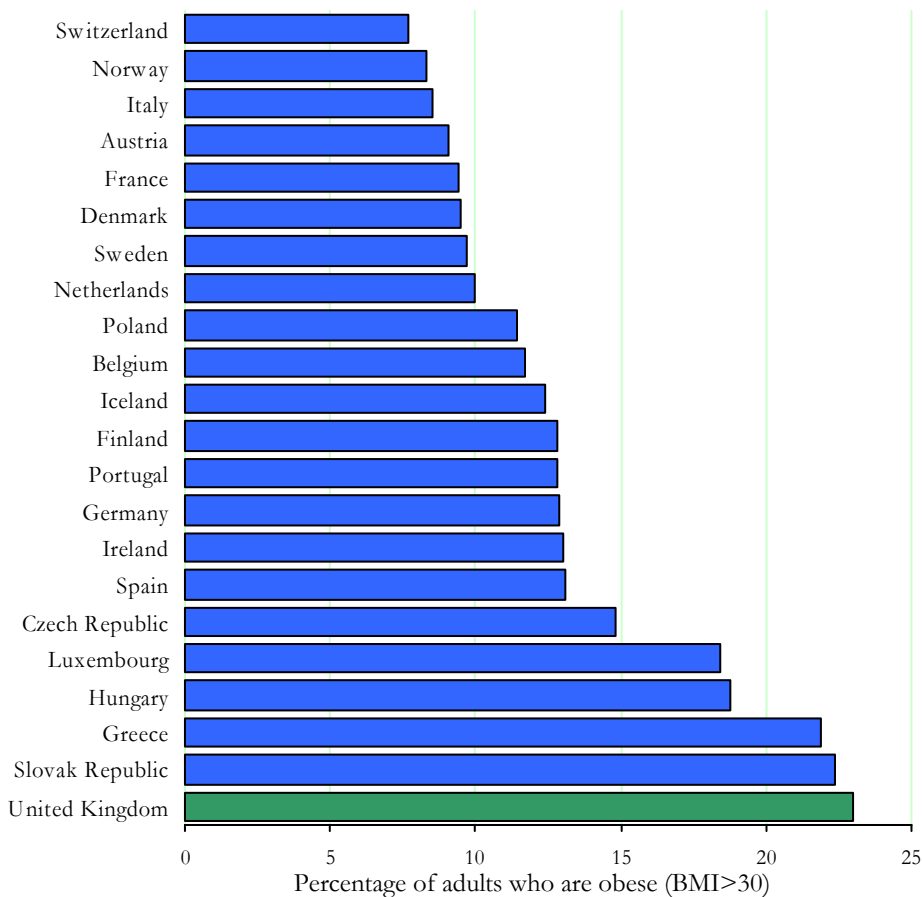




Prevalence of obesity in the United Kingdom is among the highest in Europe; in England in 2003, prevalence was highest in the West Midlands for women and in Yorkshire and the Humber for men.

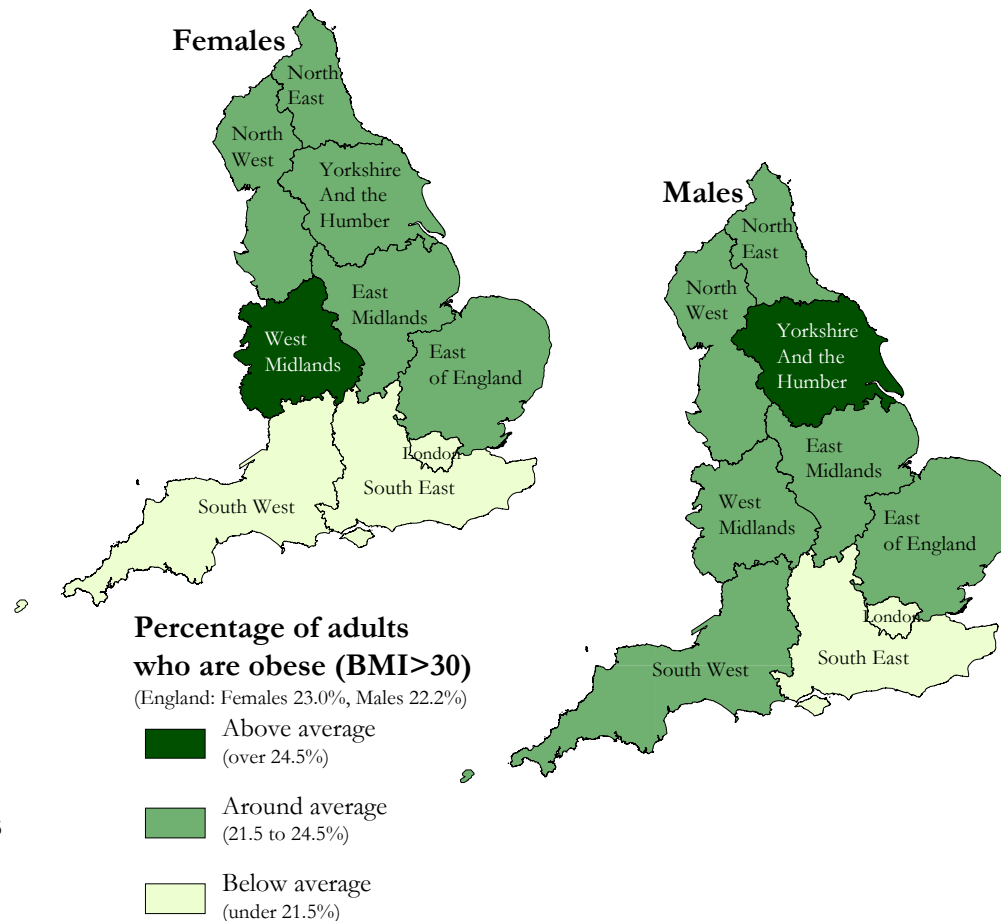
**Chart 17a: Adult obesity by selected European countries, c.2002-03**



Source: OECD Fact book, 2006, Table 8  
 Web link [caliban.sourceoecd.org/vl=1438066cl=27/nw=1/rpsv/factbook/10-01-03.htm](http://caliban.sourceoecd.org/vl=1438066cl=27/nw=1/rpsv/factbook/10-01-03.htm)

**Chart 17b: Adult obesity by region of England.**

Females and males, aged 16 and over, Government Office Regions, 2003



Source: Health Survey for England 2003, Table 6.10  
 Web link [www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/89/11/04098911.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/89/11/04098911.pdf)

The United Kingdom population has the highest prevalence of obesity among the European countries illustrated, including the EU-15 countries, (those who were members of the European Union prior to 2004). Within England, women living in the West Midlands were most likely to be obese, whilst those living in London, the South East and the South West showed the lowest prevalence. For men, the prevalence of obesity was greatest amongst those living in Yorkshire and the Humber, while those living in London showed the lowest prevalence. These figures differ from those shown in Table 1.1, which relate to all adults for the years 2000-02 combined. Year on year changes can be volatile, due to small sample numbers.