Higher Parental Income, Healthier Children

Compared with children in the highest-income families, children in poor families are more than four times as likely to be in less than “very good” health.

Children in poor families are twice as likely to be overweight or obese as children in the highest-income families.


*Based on parental assessment and measured as poor, fair, good, very good, or excellent. Health reported as less than very good was considered to be less than optimal.


** Weight status of children ages 10–17 years only, based on Body Mass Index (BMI) for age. Overweight or obese is a BMI in the 85th percentile or above.

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