

According to the World Health Organization (2022), worldwide obesity has nearly tripled since 1975, at least 2.8 million people die each year as a result of being overweight or obese, and an estimated 35.8 million (2.3%) of global Disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) are caused by overweight or obesity. 39% of adults aged 18 years and over were overweight in 2016 and 13% were obese. Most of the world's population lives in countries where overweight and obesity kills more people than underweight.

The purpose of this study was to examine American inpatient pediatric patients using the Kids' Inpatient Database (KID), Health care Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ, 2019; 2021), prior to, and after the beginning of the current COVID 19 pandemic, using a large national random sample (N = 801,499), which will include girls (n = 410,528) and boys (n = 390,971) between the ages of 10 to 18. This study sought to determine if the factors of household income (HI), healthcare quality (HQ), ethnicity (ETHN), BMI status in America.

7 KH 3 HDUVRQ & KL 6 TXDUH WHVW-ZDV DSSOLHG WR PHDVXUH IRU VLJQLÀcant variable associations in this research study in addition to the application of the Cramer's V analysis to examine for strength RI YDULDEOH DVVRFLDWLRQV 7 K-H UHVXOWV IRXQG D VWDWL cant association ($p < .05$) between BMI and HI. A statistically

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and HQ. The outcome of this children's research study provides support for more improved efforts to both develop and apply effective strategies to promote positive healthy lifestyles in children's populations.
Keywords: * Children * Obesity * Ethnicity * COVID * BMI.