

Web Appendix:

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Body Mass Index at Different Adult Ages, Weight Change and Colorectal Cancer Risk in the NIH-AARP Cohort

Exclusions

A sub-cohort of 324,524 satisfactorily completed the baseline questionnaire and an additional risk factor questionnaire (RFQ) mailed in 1996, which included recalled weights at ages 18, 35, and 50 years. We excluded records for the following: persons with self-reported cancer on the RFQ (n=14,565); persons with missing values for baseline weight (n=5,903), weight at age 18 years (n=17,933), weight at age 35 years (n=3,044), weight at age 50 years (n=1,998), or height (n=394); and persons with extreme values for baseline weight (n=436), weight at age 18 years (1,327), weight at age 35 years (2,325), weight at age 50 years (n=1,762), or height (n=1,158) based on the Box-Cox transformation. After exclusions, the analytic cohort comprised 273,679 participants (168,294 men; 105,385 women).

1	Description	N-men	Filter-men	N-women	Filter-wome	Total-N	Total-Filter
2	Original dataset					566401	
3	Sex exclusion	339669	-226732	226732	-339669	566401	-566401
4	Returned second QX (rf_entry_dt not missing)	196851	-142818	138056	-88676	334907	-231494
5	Returned second QX (rf_personyrs not missing).	196851	0	138056	0	334907	0
6	Proxy (Box B) exclusion	190373	-6478	137575	-481	327948	-6959
7	RFQ Proxy (RFQ Box B) exclusion	188117	-2256	136407	-1168	324524	-3424
8	Any cancer dx before RFQ entry	180721	-7396	129238	-7169	309959	-14565
9	Self-reported other cancer on Baseline Qx	188117	0	129238	0	317355	0
10	Deleting missings on weight at entry	178222	-2499	125834	-3404	304056	-5903
11	Deleting missings on weight at age 18	173857	-4365	112266	-13568	286123	-17933
12	Deleting missings on weight at age 35	172609	-1248	110470	-1796	283079	-3044
13	Deleting missings on weight at age 50	171736	-873	109345	-1125	281081	-1998
14	Deleting missings on height	171503	-233	109184	-161	280687	-394
15	Deleting outliers on weight at entry	171291	-212	108960	-224	280251	-436
16	Deleting outliers on weight at age 18	170736	-555	108188	-772	278924	-1327
17	Deleting outliers on weight at age 35	169959	-777	106640	-1548	276599	-2325
18	Deleting outliers on weight at age 50	169076	-883	105761	-879	274837	-1762
19	Deleting outliers on height	168294	-782	105385	-376	273679	-1158
20							

Cohort follow-up

NIH-AARP cohort members were followed annually for change of address: through matching to the National Change of Address maintained by the U.S. Postal Service; through receipt of U.S. Postal Service processing of undeliverable mail; from other address change update services; and directly from participants in response to study mailings. Vital status was ascertained by: annual linkage to the Social Security Administration Death Master File (SSADMF) on deaths in the U.S.; follow-up searches of the National Death Index for individuals who matched to the SSADMF; cancer registry linkage; questionnaire responses; and responses to other mailings.

Identification of cases

Incident colon and rectal cancers were identified through the eight state cancer registries, linked by name, address, sex, date of birth, and if available, and Social Security number. Beyond the eight original states of our cohort, the cancer registry ascertainment area included two additional states (TX, and AZ) to capture cancers occurring among participants who relocated to those states during follow-up. It is estimated that approximately 90% of cancer cases were validly identified (1).

1. Michaud DS, Midthune D, Hermansen S. Comparison of cancer registry case ascertainment with SEER estimates and self-reporting in a subset of the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study. *J Registry Manage* 2005;32:70-5

Web Table 1 Baseline characteristics of AARP Diet and Health Study cohort by category of BMI at baseline

	BMI category (kg/m ²) at cohort entry								
	<18.5	18.5 – 21.9	22 – 22.9	23 – 24.9	25 – 27.4	27.5 – 29.9	30 – 32.4	32.5 – 34.9	≥ 35
MEN									
N	665	9,201	9,588	31,708	50,825	32,164	17,897	8,912	7,334
Age at baseline	63.5	63.0	62.9	62.8	62.6	62.3	62.0	61.7	61.1
BMI at baseline (kg/m ²)	17.2	21.0	22.6	24.0	26.2	28.7	31.1	33.6	38.3
Smoking - never (%)	32.2	35.3	35.8	33.6	29.8	26.9	25.8	24.8	24.8
Smoking - past (%)	44.8	44.4	48.5	52.5	58.0	61.7	63.1	63.9	64.8
Smoking - current (%)	20.5	17.2	12.5	10.7	8.8	7.9	7.6	7.6	6.5
Ethnicity (% White)	92.7	93.3	94.5	94.8	94.8	95.3	94.9	95.0	94.8
More than HS education (%)	83.2	84.2	84.7	84.1	81.2	79.4	77.5	76.1	74.4
Physically active (%)	47.1	57.6	60.6	58.9	54.3	49.1	43.5	38.9	29.9
Energy (kcal/day)	2,041	2,037	1,982	1,984	1,997	2,043	2,088	2,148	2,236
Alcohol (g/day)	18.6	18.4	17.6	18.2	18.2	18.6	18.3	17.8	15.5
Fat (g/1000 kcal/day)	33.7	31.8	31.7	32.1	33.2	34.2	35.0	35.9	36.8
Red meat (g/1000 kcal/day)	34.7	30.5	31.1	33.1	36.6	39.9	42.4	44.6	47.5
Vegetables (servings/1000 kcal/day)	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Fruit (servings/1000 kcal/day)	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
WOMEN									
N	1,263	18,092	8,434	19,538	21,690	12,845	9,490	5,845	8,188
Age at baseline	62.6	61.8	61.9	62.1	62.2	62.1	62.0	61.8	61.1
BMI at baseline (kg/m ²)	17.5	20.7	22.5	24.0	26.3	28.8	31.2	33.7	39.4
Smoking - never (%)	37.8	42.5	42.9	43.6	43.0	45.4	45.9	46.2	46.0
Smoking - past (%)	28.7	36.5	39.3	39.4	41.0	40.4	41.6	41.6	43.8
Smoking - current (%)	30.4	18.2	14.6	14.1	12.9	11.6	9.8	9.4	7.3
Ethnicity (% White)	95.4	95.9	95.5	94.6	92.6	92.0	91.0	90.5	89.9
More than HS education (%)	77.6	77.5	76.4	72.3	70.5	68.0	67.5	66.1	65.1
MHT use (% ever used)	53.7	61.2	61.0	59.7	55.9	53.2	49.7	45.7	40.1
Physically active (%)	47.3	54.3	53.0	49.7	45	37.7	33.9	30.5	22.4
Energy (kcal/day)	1,618	1,535	1,524	1,531	1,552	1,600	1,616	1,641	1,739
Alcohol (g/day)	8.7	8.3	7.9	7.4	6.3	5.2	4.6	3.8	3.1
Fat (g/1000 kcal/day)	33.0	31.5	31.7	32.2	32.9	33.8	34.4	35.0	36.2
Red meat (g/1000 kcal/day)	25.2	24.3	25.5	27.6	29.3	31.2	32.3	33.5	35.9
Vegetables (servings/1000 kcal/day)	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
Fruit (servings/1000 kcal/day)	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8

All values (except age) were directly standardized to the age distribution of the cohort. BMI: body mass index. HS: High-school. MHT: Menopausal hormonal therapy.

Web Table 2 Pearson correlation coefficients for BMI values and weight change values at different ages

	BMI 18	BMI 35	BMI 50	baseline BMI	Weight change			
					18-35	35-50	50- baseline	18- baseline
MEN								
BMI 18	1.00							
BMI 35	0.67	1.00						
BMI 50	0.49	0.75	1.00					
BMI baseline	0.37	0.58	0.81	1.00				
Wt Chg 18-35	-0.37	0.43	0.34	0.26	1.00			
Wt Chg 35-50	-0.17	-0.22	0.48	0.43	-0.07	1.00		
Wt Chg 50-baseline	-0.06	-0.09	-0.10	0.35	-0.03	-0.03	1.00	
Wt Chg 18-baseline	-0.37	0.08	0.45	0.69	0.56	0.56	0.41	1.00
WOMEN								
BMI 18	1.00							
BMI 35	0.59	1.00						
BMI 50	0.42	0.74	1.00					
BMI baseline	0.34	0.63	0.82	1.00				
Wt Chg 18-35	-0.34	0.55	0.43	0.38	1.00			
Wt Chg 35-50	-0.01	0.04	0.70	0.55	0.07	1.00		
Wt Chg 50-baseline	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.41	0.05	-0.04	1.00	
Wt Chg 18-baseline	-0.18	0.33	0.64	0.84	0.58	0.62	0.46	1.00

Wt chg: weight change

The correlation coefficients between baseline BMI and BMI at ages 50, 35 and 18 years were 0.81, 0.58 and 0.37 in men, and 0.82, 0.63 and 0.34 in women. Baseline BMI was positively correlated with weight gain since age 18 years ($r = 0.69$) in men and ($r = 0.84$) in women.

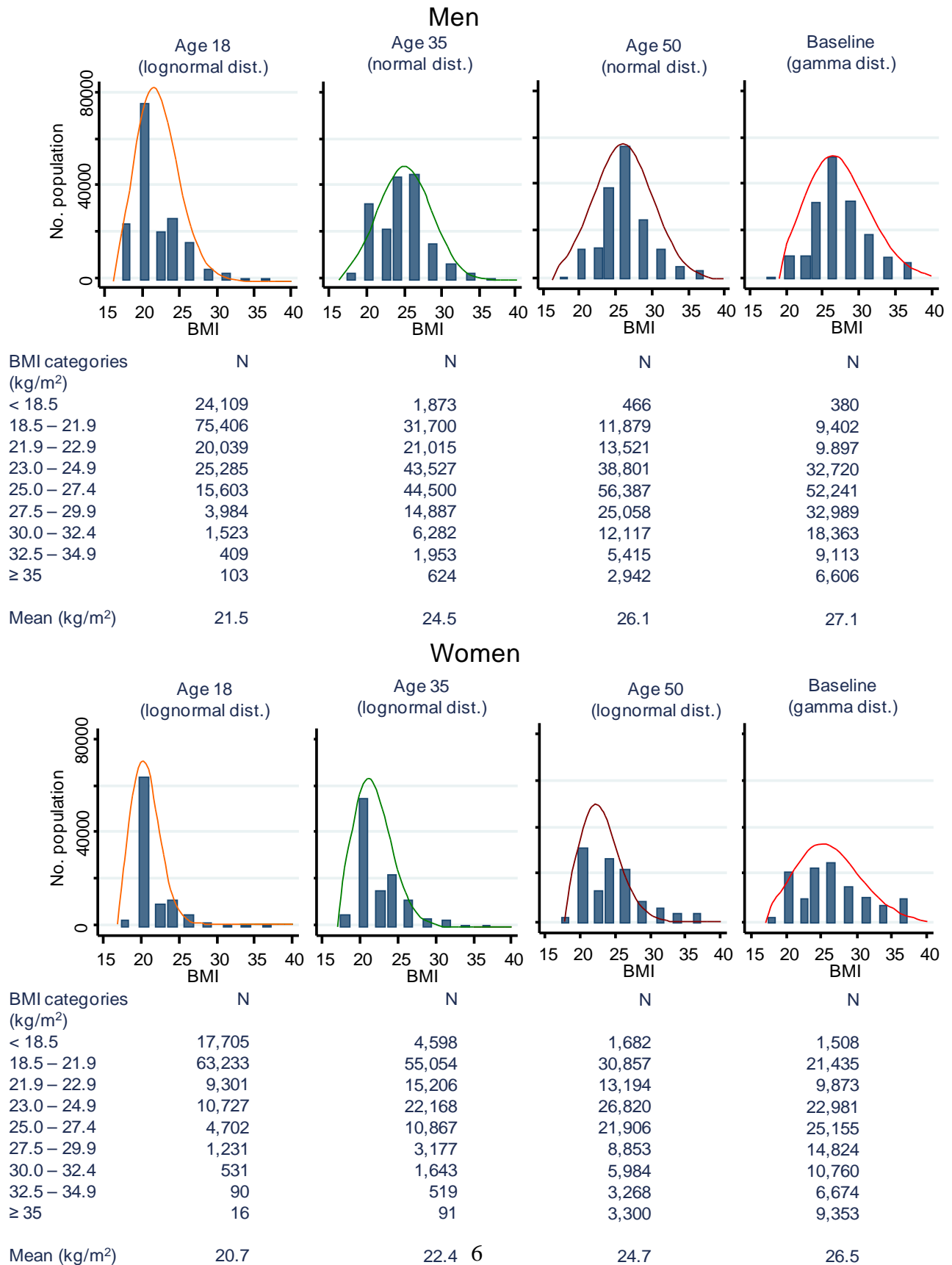
Web Table 3 Baseline characteristics of AARP Diet and Health Study cohort by weight gain categories

Weight change from age 18 to age at baseline (kg/yr)

	Loss ≤-0.50 kg/yr	Stable >(-0.50) – (+0.50) kg/yr	Gain >0.50 - 1.00 kg/yr	Gain >1.00-2.00 kg/yr	Gain >2 kg/yr
MEN					
N	383	112,946	48,123	6,707	135
Age at baseline	60.1	63.1	61.3	58.8	56.1
BMI at baseline (kg/m ²)	23.6	25.6	29.7	36.5	43.1
BMI at age 18 (kg/m ²)	32.8	22.2	20.4	20.2	16.0
BMI at age 35 (kg/m ²)	27.6	24.4	24.7	26.3	24.4
BMI at age 50 (kg/m ²)	26.6	25.3	27.5	31.4	36.4
Weight change at age 18-35 (kg)	-16.5	7.1	13.7	20.0	29.2
Weight change at age 35-50 (kg)	-3.1	2.8	9.1	16.6	41.9
Weight change at age 50-baseline (kg)	-9.9	1.0	6.9	16.5	21.6
Weight change at age 18-baseline (kg)	-29.5	10.8	29.7	53.1	92.7
Smoking - never (%)	26.1	31.9	25.5	22.8	14.0
Smoking - past (%)	55.8	54.3	63.5	67.3	75.6
Smoking - current (%)	14.1	10.5	7.5	6.2	6.7
Ethnicity (% White)	97.3	94.9	94.8	93.9	94.5
More than HS education (%)	81.6	82.7	77.5	72.5	48.1
Physically active (%)	58.4	56.5	43.3	28.7	8.9
Energy (kcal/day)	1,851	1,989	2,097	2,309	2,085
Alcohol (g/day)	14.1	17.9	18.9	17.4	12.6
Fat (g/1000 kcal/day)	32.1	32.7	34.9	36.7	35.1
Red meat (g/1000 kcal/day)	33.5	35.1	41.7	46.7	51.8
Vegetables (servings/1000 kcal/day)	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8
Fruit (servings/1000 kcal/day)	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7
WOMEN					
N	184	75,952	24,404	4,758	87
Age at baseline	60.3	62.5	60.9	58.7	55.8
BMI at baseline (kg/m ²)	20.3	24.4	31.4	40.6	55.9
BMI at age 18 (kg/m ²)	30.5	20.9	20.5	21.1	20.7
BMI at age 35 (kg/m ²)	23.9	22.1	23.7	26.1	26.1
BMI at age 50 (kg/m ²)	23.7	23.4	27.6	33.1	34.9
Weight change at age 18-35 (kg)	-17.7	3.0	8.7	13.5	14.7
Weight change at age 35-50 (kg)	-0.2	3.6	10.6	19.1	23.7
Weight change at age 50-baseline (kg)	-9.3	2.5	10.3	20.5	54.4
Weight change at age 18-baseline (kg)	-27.2	9.1	29.6	53.1	92.8
Smoking - never (%)	34.9	43.3	45.7	45.7	51.4
Smoking - past (%)	37.5	39.0	41.8	44.4	43.1
Smoking - current (%)	23.6	14.8	9.7	6.8	4.4
Ethnicity (% White)	93.7	94.5	90.8	87.9	77.3
More than HS education (%)	72.4	73.1	67.0	65.0	45.7
MHT use (% ever used)	51.9	57.8	49.7	40.2	34.7
Physically active (%)	47.9	48.7	32.4	20.5	22.1
Energy (kcal/day)	1,414	1,536	1,645	1,818	2,115
Alcohol (g/day)	7.1	7.0	4.7	3.2	3.2
Fat (g/1000 kcal/day)	31.5	32.3	34.8	36.3	36.1
Red meat (g/1000 kcal/day)	26.8	27.3	32.9	36.4	32.7
Vegetables (servings/1000 kcal/day)	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4
Fruit (servings/1000 kcal/day)	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.0

All values (except age) were directly standardized to the age distribution of the cohort. BMI: body mass index. HS: High-school. MHT: Menopausal hormonal therapy.

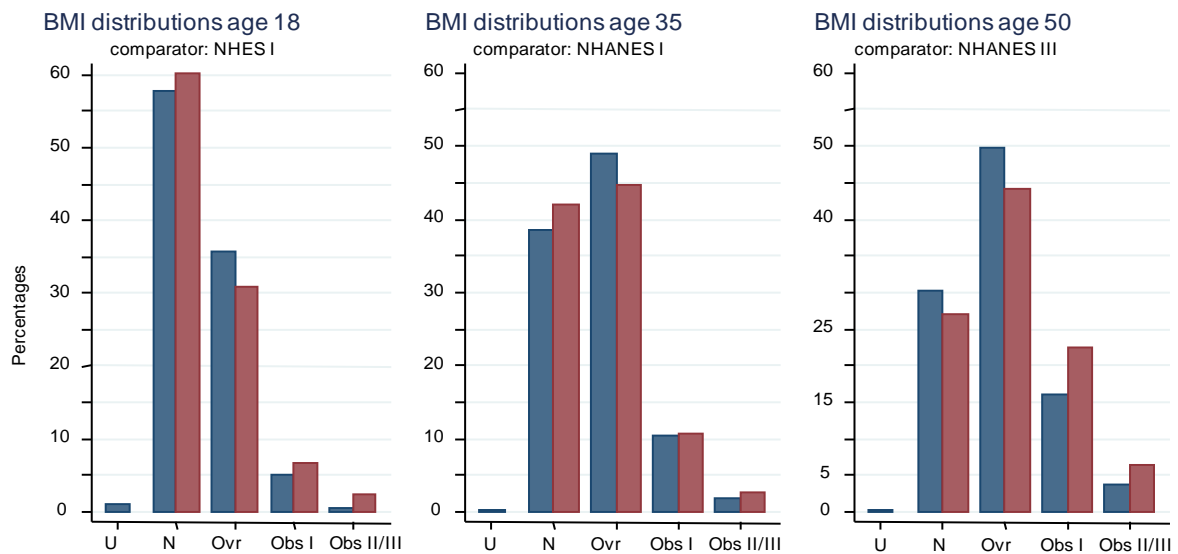
Web Figure 1 BMI distributions at different ages by men and women



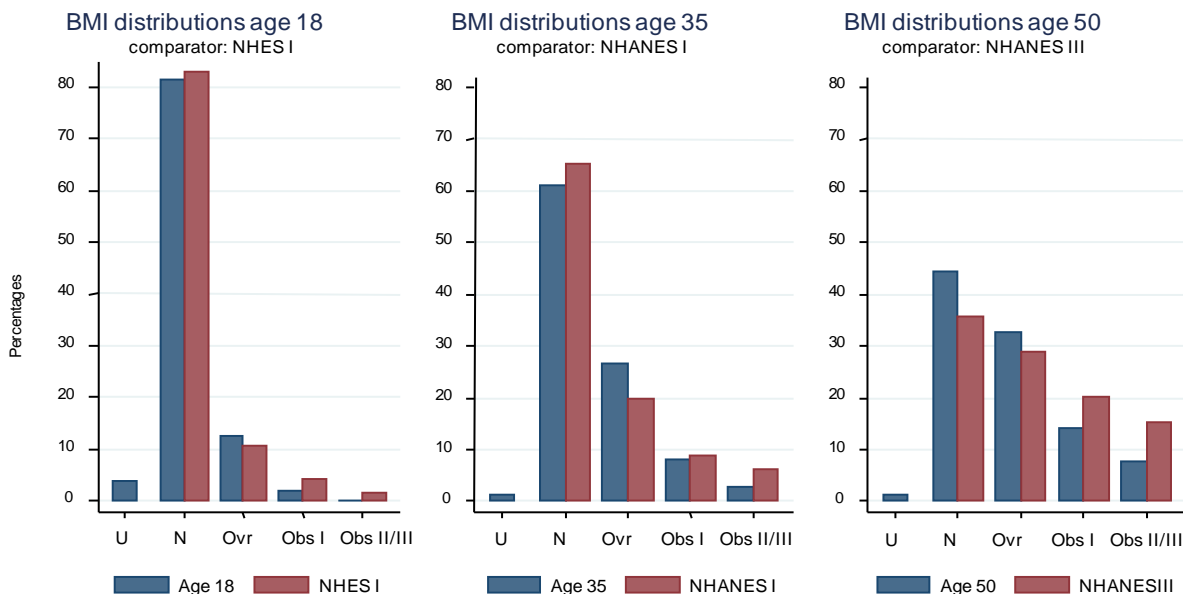
Web Figure 2 Validation of recall approach to BMI determination at earlier ages. Comparisons with contemporaneous populations.

To test for the validity of the recall approach to determining BMI at younger ages, we evaluated these age-specific BMI distributions by sex against contemporaneous populations. We estimated that for a cohort with a median age of approximately 60 years collected in the mid-1990s, approximate populations for their BMIs at age 18 was NHES I (1960-62); at age 35 was NHANES I (1971 to 1974); and at age 50 was NHANES III (1988-94). The respective comparators for men and women are illustrated below. There was broad agreement for the numerically larger groups of normal weight (N) and overweight (Ovr). NHANES I and III tended to report high prevalences for obesity classes I, II, and III (Obs I and Obs II/III). NHANES did not report underweight (U). (Source: Flegal KM, Carroll MD, Kuczmarski RJ, et al. Overweight and obesity in the United States: prevalence and trends, 1960-1994. *Int J Obes Relat Metab Disord* 1998;22(1):39-47).

MEN



WOMEN



Web Table 4 Relative risk of incident colorectal cancer in relation to Body Mass Index (BMI) at baseline age, 50, 35, and 18 years among men and women the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort.¹

	BMI category (kg/m ²)									Hazard ratio per 5 kg/m ²	P for trend ²
	<18.5	18.5 - 20.9	21 - 22.9	23 - 24.9	25 - 27.4	27.5 - 29.9	30 - 32.4 (≥30)	32.5 - 34.9 (≥32.5)	≥ 35		
MEN											
BMI at baseline											
Cases	10	134	136	493	804	584	325	167	151		
MV HR	1.09	1.0	0.99	1.06	1.07	1.24	1.21	1.31	1.50	1.14	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.57-2.08)	Ref.	(0.77-1.26)	(0.87-1.29)	(0.88-1.29)	(1.02-1.5)	(0.98-1.5)	(1.04-1.66)	(1.18-1.91)	(1.08-1.20)	
BMI at 50 years											
Cases	15	197	214	583	956	423	232	114	70		
MV HR	1.25	1.0	0.97	0.95	1.05	1.12	1.28	1.43	1.27	1.15	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.74-2.11)	Ref.	(0.79-1.18)	(0.80-1.12)	(0.90-1.23)	(0.94-1.33)	(1.05-1.56)	(1.13-1.81)	(0.96-1.69)	(1.09-1.22)	
BMI at 35 years											
Cases	36	541	339	702	712	286	113	75			
MV HR	1.03	1.0	0.98	1.00	1.02	1.26	1.20	1.49		1.14	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.74-1.45)	Ref.	(0.86-1.13)	(0.89-1.12)	(0.91-1.14)	(1.08-1.46)	(0.97-1.47)	(1.16-1.91)		(1.07-1.22)	
BMI at 18 years											
Cases	441	1255	334	415	242	60	57				
MV HR ¹	1.08	1.0	1.04	1.05	1.00	1.02	1.50			1.08	0.07
(95% CI)	(0.97-1.21)	Ref.	(0.92-1.17)	(0.94-1.18)	(0.87-1.15)	(0.79-1.33)	(1.15-1.97)			(0.99-1.17)	
WOMEN											
BMI at baseline											
Cases	20	191	90	225	269	159	101	74	111		
MV HR	1.46	1.0	1.03	1.08	1.12	1.12	0.96	1.16	1.25	1.05	0.13
(95% CI)	(0.92-2.32)	Ref.	(0.80-1.33)	(0.89-1.31)	(0.93-1.36)	(0.90-1.39)	(0.75-1.23)	(0.88-1.53)	(0.97-1.60)	(0.99-1.11)	
BMI at 50 years											
Cases	20	299	126	301	251	87	63	36	57		
MV HR	1.23	1.0	0.96	1.09	1.13	0.97	1.10	1.21	1.58	1.10	0.01
(95% CI)	(0.78-1.94)	Ref.	(0.78-1.19)	(0.92-1.28)	(0.95-1.34)	(0.75-1.24)	(0.83-1.46)	(0.85-1.72)	(1.18-2.12)	(1.03-1.18)	
BMI at 35 years											
Cases	43	551	177	238	132	45	26	28			
MV HR	1.04	1.0	1.10	1.00	1.08	1.30	1.16	1.67		1.14	0.01
(95% CI)	(0.76-1.43)	Ref.	(0.93-1.3)	(0.85-1.16)	(0.88-1.31)	(0.96-1.77)	(0.77-1.73)	(1.13-2.47)		(1.03-1.25)	
BMI at 18 years											
Cases	199	719	110	110	63	20	19				
MV HR	1	1.0	1.03	0.85	1.13	1.31	1.29			1.07	0.34
(95% CI)	(0.85-1.17)	Ref.	(0.84-1.26)	(0.69-1.04)	(0.87-1.47)	(0.84-2.05)	(0.81-2.06)			(0.93-1.22)	

¹Multivariable hazard ratios (MV HR) calculated using PROC PHREG in SAS version 9.1. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, and alcohol consumption. Analyses for women also adjusted for use of menopausal hormone therapy.

Web Table 5 Hazard ratios for incident proximal and distal colon cancer in relation to Body Mass Index (BMI) at baseline age, 50, 35, 18 years among men in the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	BMI category (kg/m ²)									Hazard Ratio ² per 5 kg/ m ²	P for trend ²
	<18.5	18.5 - 21.9	22 - 22.9	23 - 24.9	25 - 27.4	27.5 - 29.9	30 - 32.4 (≥30) ³	32.5 - 34.9 (≥32.5) ³	≥ 35		
BMI at baseline											
Proximal Colon cases	5	59	54	193	314	253	129	72	66		
MV HR ¹	1.24	1.0	0.88	0.93	0.97	1.23	1.14	1.36	1.57	1.20	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.50-3.09)	Ref.	(0.60-1.28)	(0.69-1.25)	(0.73-1.29)	(0.92-1.65)	(0.83-1.57)	(0.95-1.93)	(1.09-2.25)	(1.11-1.30)	
Distal Colon cases	1	33	35	145	267	171	113	46	44		
MV HR ¹	0.44	1.0	1.02	1.25	1.36	1.44	1.69	1.37	1.68	1.15	0.003
(95% CI)	(0.06-3.22)	Ref.	(0.62-1.66)	(0.84-1.85)	(0.94-1.99)	(0.98-2.12)	(1.13-2.52)	(0.86-2.18)	(1.05-2.68)	(1.05-1.27)	
BMI at 50 years											
Proximal Colon cases	6	85	89	234	386	174	91	50	30		
MV HR ¹	1.15	1.0	0.93	0.87	1.00	1.09	1.21	1.52	1.27	1.17	0.0003
(95% CI)	(0.50-2.64)	Ref.	(0.69-1.26)	(0.68-1.12)	(0.78-1.27)	(0.83-1.42)	(0.90-1.64)	(1.07-2.17)	(0.82- 1.97)	(1.08-1.28)	
Distal Colon cases	5	52	67	165	302	130	79	39	16		
MV HR ¹	1.54	1.0	1.14	0.97	1.21	1.24	1.57	1.81	1.04	1.18	0.002
(95% CI)	(0.62-3.88)	Ref.	(0.79-1.66)	(0.70-1.34)	(0.90-1.65)	(0.89-1.73)	(1.09-2.25)	(1.19-2.77)	(0.58-1.86)	(1.06-1.30)	
BMI at 35 years											
Proximal Colon cases	17	221	137	289	283	122	45	31			
MV HR ¹	1.18	1.0	0.97	1.00	0.98	1.33	1.15	1.49		1.14	0.01
(95% CI)	(0.72-1.93)	Ref.	(0.78-1.21)	(0.83-1.19)	(0.82-1.17)	(1.06-1.67)	(0.83-1.59)	(1.01- 2.20)		(1.03-1.26)	
Distal Colon cases	9	155	113	203	232	86	38	19			
MV HR ¹	0.91	1.0	1.12	0.99	1.17	1.33	1.41	1.29		1.17	0.01
(95% CI)	(0.47-1.79)	Ref.	(0.87-1.45)	(0.80-1.24)	(0.95-1.45)	(1.01-1.74)	(0.98-2.03)	(0.79-2.11)		(1.04-1.31)	
BMI at 18 years											
Proximal Colon cases	185	514	137	173	91	26	19				
MV HR ¹	1.11	1.0	1.03	1.07	0.90	1.08	1.25			1.02	0.72
(95% CI)	(0.94- 1.32)	Ref.	(0.85-1.25)	(0.90-1.27)	(0.72-1.14)	(0.73-1.61)	(0.79-1.98)			(0.90-1.17)	
Distal Colon cases	130	373	98	136	80	20	18				
MV HR ¹	1.06	1.0	1.05	1.20	1.14	1.17	1.65			1.18	0.02
(95% CI)	(0.86-1.30)	Ref.	(0.83-1.32)	(0.98-1.46)	(0.89-1.46)	(0.75-1.84)	(1.02-2.65)			(1.02-1.36)	

¹ Multivariable hazard ratios (MV HR) calculated using PROC PHREG in SAS version 9.1. We took relative risk (RR) – used in the text – to be equivalent with HR. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, and alcohol consumption.

² Calculated after excluding subjects whose BMI at a given age was less than 18.5 kg/m².

³ Collapsed BMI categories. There were 28 men with synchronous colon and rectal cancers. There was missing location data for proximal and distal colon cancers in 70 men.

Web Table 6 Hazard ratios for incident proximal and distal colon cancer in relation to Body Mass Index (BMI) at baseline age, 50, 35, 18 years among women in the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	BMI category (kg/m ²)									Hazard Ratio ² per 5 kg/ m ²	P for trend ²
	<18.5	18.5 - 21.9	22 - 22.9	23 - 24.9	25 - 27.4	27.5 - 29.9	30 - 32.4 (≥30) ³	32.5 - 34.9 (≥32.5) ³	≥ 35		
BMI at baseline											
Proximal Colon cases	12	102	40	109	128	80	52	27	57		
MV HR ¹	1.59	1.0	0.85	0.98	0.99	1.04	0.92	0.75	1.15	1.02	0.67
(95% CI)	(0.88-2.90)	Ref.	(0.59-1.23)	(0.74-1.28)	(0.76-1.29)	(0.77-1.40)	(0.65-1.29)	(0.49-1.17)	(0.82-1.63)	(0.93-1.11)	
Distal Colon cases	1	43	28	64	69	45	29	24	26		
MV HR ¹	0.36	1.0	1.45	1.36	1.28	1.45	1.28	1.72	1.35	1.07	0.23
(95% CI)	(0.05-2.61)	Ref.	(0.89-2.37)	(0.91-2.04)	(0.86-1.91)	(0.94-2.24)	(0.79-2.08)	(1.02-2.88)	(0.81-2.25)	(0.96-1.20)	
BMI at 50 years											
Proximal Colon cases	14	139	67	145	122	43	35	16	26		
MV HR ¹	1.84	1.0	1.1	1.13	1.21	1.05	1.35	1.14	1.64	1.12	0.03
(95% CI)	(1.06-3.19)	Ref.	(0.82-1.48)	(0.90-1.44)	(0.94-1.55)	(0.74-1.50)	(0.92-1.97)	(0.66-1.95)	(1.06-2.52)	(1.01-1.24)	
Distal Colon cases	3	77	31	84	66	26	16	7	19		
MV HR ¹	0.75	1.0	0.91	1.17	1.11	1.17	1.1	0.91	1.85	1.13	0.08
(95% CI)	(0.24-2.37)	Ref.	(0.60-1.40)	(0.85-1.61)	(0.79-1.56)	(0.75-1.85)	(0.64-1.91)	(0.42-1.99)	(1.09-3.16)	(0.99-1.29)	
BMI at 35 years											
Proximal Colon cases	18	265	89	120	66	28	13	8			
MV HR ¹	0.94	1.0	1.14	1.05	1.14	1.69	1.25	1.05		1.13	0.08
(95% CI)	(0.59-1.52)	Ref.	(0.90-1.46)	(0.85-1.31)	(0.86-1.5)	(1.14-2.51)	(0.72-2.2)	(0.52-2.14)		(0.98-1.31)	
Distal Colon cases	10	143	49	65	36	8	8	10			
MV HR ¹	0.81	1.0	1.17	1.05	1.13	0.88	1.4	2.05		1.16	0.11
(95% CI)	(0.40-1.65)	Ref.	(0.84-1.62)	(0.78-1.42)	(0.77-1.65)	(0.43-1.79)	(0.68-2.86)	(1.04-4.05)		(0.96-1.41)	
BMI at 18 years											
Proximal Colon cases	89	350	59	57	37	9	6				
MV HR ¹	0.90	1.0	1.12	0.92	1.39	1.2	0.89			1.08	0.39
(95% CI)	(0.71-1.14)	Ref.	(0.85-1.48)	(0.69-1.22)	(0.99-1.96)	(0.62-2.32)	(0.39-1.99)			(0.90-1.30)	
Distal Colon cases	57	187	26	28	13	8	10				
MV HR ¹	1.11	1.0	0.97	0.82	0.86	2.05	2.43			1.22	0.10
(95% CI)	(0.82-1.50)	Ref.	(0.64-1.47)	(0.54-1.23)	(0.48-1.54)	(1.01-4.17)	(1.24-4.76)			(0.96-1.55)	

¹ Multivariable hazard ratios (MV HR) calculated using PROC PHREG in SAS version 9.1. We took relative risk (RR) – used in the text – to be equivalent with HR. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, alcohol consumption, and use of MHT.

² Calculated after excluding subjects whose BMI at a given age was less than 18.5 kg/m².

³ Collapsed BMI categories.

There were 4 women with synchronous colon and rectal cancers. There was missing location data for proximal and distal colon cancers in 26 women.

Web Table 7 Risk of incident proximal and distal colon cancer in relation to weight change over 3 consecutive age intervals among men in the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	Average Yearly Weight Change					HR per 0.5 kg/yr ²	P for trend ²
	Loss ≤-0.50 kg/yr	Stable >(-0.50) – (+0.50) kg/yr	Gain >0.50 - 1.00 kg/yr	Gain >1.00-2.00 kg/yr	Gain >2 kg/yr		
18 to 35 years							
Proximal colon cases	14	489	445	173	24		
MV HR ¹	0.95	1.0	1.21	1.32	2.19	1.19	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.55-1.65)	Ref.	(1.06-1.39)	(1.11-1.58)	(1.44-3.33)	(1.10-1.29)	
Distal colon cases	9	374	324	132	16		
MV HR ¹	0.69	1.0	1.17	1.31	1.76	1.16	0.001
(95% CI)	(0.35-1.37)	Ref.	(1.00-1.37)	(1.06-1.61)	(1.03-3.01)	(1.06-1.28)	
35 to 50 years							
Proximal colon cases	39	768	238	90	10		
MV HR ¹	1.13	1.0	1.07	1.11	1.29	1.06	0.17
(95% CI)	(0.81-1.57)	Ref.	(0.92-1.24)	(0.88-1.39)	(0.69-2.41)	(0.97-1.15)	
Distal colon cases	22	563	196	69	5		
MV HR ¹	0.79	1.0	1.10	1.04	0.62	1.00	1.00
(95% CI)	(0.50-1.24)	Ref.	(0.92-1.30)	(0.80-1.36)	(0.23-1.66)	(0.91-1.10)	
50 years to baseline							
Proximal colon cases	58	772	185	104	26		
MV HR ¹	0.73	1.0	0.97	1.30	1.27	1.06	0.06
(95% CI)	(0.54-0.98)	Ref.	(0.82-1.15)	(1.05-1.61)	(0.85-1.90)	(0.99-1.12)	
Distal colon cases	57	554	150	74	20		
MV HR ¹	0.96	1.0	1.09	1.22	1.21	1.06	0.12
(95% CI)	(0.71-1.30)	Ref.	(0.90-1.32)	(0.95-1.58)	(0.76-1.92)	(0.98-1.13)	
18 years to baseline							
Proximal colon cases	3	740	347	55	0		
MV HR ¹	1.37	1.0	1.25	1.78	N/A	1.36	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.43-4.33)	Ref.	(1.09-1.43)	(1.33-2.36)		(1.19-1.56)	
Distal colon cases	1	555	263	35	1		
MV HR ¹	0.49	1.0	1.21	1.31	2.48	1.23	0.01
(95% CI)	(0.07-3.52)	Ref.	(1.03-1.42)	(0.91-1.88)	(0.35-17.75)	(1.04-1.45)	

¹ MV HR: multivariable hazard ratio. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, alcohol consumption, and weight at the start of each time period. ²Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain was negative.

There was missing location data for proximal and distal colon cancers in 70 men.

Web Table 8 Risk of incident proximal and distal colon cancer in relation to weight change over 3 consecutive age intervals among women in the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	Average Yearly Weight Change					HR per 0.5 kg/yr ²	P for trend ²
	Loss ≤-0.50 kg/yr	Stable >(-0.50) – (+0.50) kg/yr	Gain >0.50 - 1.00 kg/yr	Gain >1.00-2.00 kg/yr	Gain >2 kg/yr		
18 to 35 years							
Proximal colon cases	24	423	125	32	3		
MV HR ¹	1.15	1.0	1.11	1.46	2.16	1.17	0.02
(95% CI)	(0.73-1.82)	Ref.	(0.90-1.36)	(1.01-2.12)	(0.69-6.74)	(1.02-1.35)	
Distal colon cases	9	237	73	8	2		
MV HR ¹	0.70	1.0	1.12	0.63	2.29	1.01	0.91
(95% CI)	(0.34-1.43)	Ref.	(0.85-1.47)	(0.31-1.29)	(0.57-9.24)	(0.83-1.23)	
35 to 50 years							
Proximal colon cases	11	412	130	40	14		
MV HR ¹	0.90	1.0	1.07	0.83	1.89	1.03	0.54
(95% CI)	(0.49-1.64)	Ref.	(0.88-1.31)	(0.59-1.17)	(1.10-3.25)	(0.93-1.14)	
Distal colon cases	8	221	66	29	5		
MV HR ¹	1.22	1.0	1.00	1.12	1.13	1.02	0.75
(95% CI)	(0.60-2.49)	Ref.	(0.75-1.32)	(0.75-1.67)	(0.46-2.78)	(0.89-1.17)	
50 years to baseline							
Proximal colon cases	27	383	115	66	16		
MV HR ¹	0.98	1.0	0.92	0.94	0.69	0.94	0.14
(95% CI)	(0.64-1.48)	Ref.	(0.74-1.14)	(0.71-1.23)	(0.40-1.17)	(0.87-1.02)	
Distal colon cases	18	202	64	28	17		
MV HR ¹	1.03	1.0	0.98	0.76	1.36	1.01	0.80
(95% CI)	(0.60-1.77)	Ref.	(0.74-1.31)	(0.51-1.14)	(0.80-2.31)	(0.92-1.18)	
18 years to baseline							
Proximal colon cases	1	452	129	24	1		
MV HR	0.90	1.0	0.96	1.05	3.49	1.00	0.95
(95% CI)	(0.12-6.51)	Ref.	(0.78-1.18)	(0.68-1.62)	(0.49- 24.99)	(0.86-1.18)	
Distal colon cases	0	243	69	17	0		
MV HR ¹	N/A	1.0	0.99	1.36	N/A	1.07	0.54
(95% CI)		Ref.	(0.75-1.31)	(0.81-2.27)		(0.87-1.31)	

¹ MV HR: multivariable hazard ratios. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, alcohol consumption, use of MHT, and weight at the start of each time period. ² Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain for a given time period was negative.

There was missing location data for proximal and distal colon cancers in 26 women.

Web Table 9 Relative risk of incident COLON cancer in relation to weight change over 3 consecutive age intervals among men and women in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study cohort *after excluding cases diagnosed within two years of cohort entry*.¹

	Average Yearly Weight Change					HR per 0.5 kg/yr ²	P for trend ²
	Loss ≤-0.50 kg/yr	Stable >(-0.50) – (+0.50) kg/yr	Gain >0.50 - 1.00 kg/yr	Gain >1.00-2.00 kg/yr	Gain >2 kg/yr		
MEN							
18 to 35 years							
CASES	19	747	630	260	33		
MV HR	0.78	1.0	1.13	1.29	1.96	1.17	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.49-1.25)	Ref.	(1.02-1.26)	(1.12-1.49)	(1.38-2.78)	(1.10-1.24)	
35 to 50 years							
CASES	47	1137	363	132	10		
MV HR	0.78	1.0	1.06	1.07	0.78	1.02	0.61
(95% CI)	(0.57-1.05)	Ref.	(0.94-1.20)	(0.89-1.28)	(0.42-1.46)	(0.95-1.09)	
50 years to baseline							
CASES	98	1119	280	154	38		
MV HR	0.91	1.0	1.00	1.25	1.14	1.04	0.08
(95% CI)	(0.73-1.13)	Ref.	(0.88-1.14)	(1.05-1.49)	(0.82-1.60)	(0.99-1.10)	
18 years to baseline							
CASES	3	1105	505	76	0		
MV HR	0.83	1.0	1.18	1.49	N/A	1.24	0.0002
(95% CI)	(0.26-2.61)	Ref.	(1.05-1.31)	(1.17-1.89)		(1.10-1.39)	
WOMEN							
18 to 35 years							
CASES	29	592	172	41	6		
MV HR	0.99	1.0	1.07	1.31	2.84	1.14	0.02
(95% CI)	(0.66-1.48)	Ref.	(0.90-1.28)	(0.95-1.81)	(1.27-6.36)	(1.02-1.29)	
35 to 50 years							
CASES	19	566	172	63	20		
MV HR	0.99	1.0	1.02	0.94	1.81	1.05	0.22
(95% CI)	(0.62-1.60)	Ref.	(0.86-1.22)	(0.72-1.23)	(1.14-2.85)	(0.97-1.14)	
50 years to baseline							
CASES	40	523	159	89	29		
MV HR	1.01	1.0	0.94	0.93	0.92	0.97	0.41
(95% CI)	(0.72-1.42)	Ref.	(0.78-1.12)	(0.74-1.17)	(0.62-1.36)	(0.92-1.04)	
18 years to baseline							
CASES	1	616	181	41	1		
MV HR	0.69	1.0	1.00	1.32	2.30	1.08	0.25
(95% CI)	(0.10-4.95)	Ref.	(0.85-1.19)	(0.95-1.83)	(0.32-16.41)	(0.95-1.23)	

¹MV HR: multivariable hazard ratios. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, alcohol consumption, and weight at the start of each time period. ²Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain was negative.

Web Table 10 Risk of incident proximal and distal colon cancer in relation to excess BMI across the lifetime among men and women in the AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	Adulthood excess BMI (kg/m ²) ¹							Hazard ratio per kg/m ² excess BMI ³	P for trend ³
	BMI < 18.5	0	≤1	>1-2	>2-4	>4-6	>6		
MEN									
Proximal colon cases	5	463	171	147	191	90	78		
MV HR ²	1.25	1.0	1.02	1.08	1.15	1.19	1.44	1.04	0.002
(95% CI)	(0.52-3.01)	Ref.	(0.86-1.22)	(0.90-1.31)	(0.97-1.36)	(0.95-1.50)	(1.13-1.85)	(1.01-1.06)	
Distal colon cases	1	336	130	119	129	85	55		
MV HR ²	0.36	1.0	1.07	1.21	1.04	1.54	1.39	1.04	0.002
(95% CI)	(0.05-2.54)	Ref.	(0.87-1.32)	(0.97-1.50)	(0.84-1.28)	(1.20-1.97)	(1.03-1.86)	(1.02-1.07)	
WOMEN									
Proximal colon cases	12	283	90	54	77	42	49		
MV HR ²	1.75	1.0	1.28	1.01	1.10	1.13	1.33	1.03	0.079
(95% CI)	(0.98-3.13)	Ref.	(1.00-1.62)	(0.75-1.35)	(0.85-1.43)	(0.81-1.59)	(0.97-1.83)	(1.00-1.06)	
Distal colon cases	1	163	40	29	45	21	30		
MV HR ²	0.28	1.0	0.98	0.95	1.06	1.04	1.35	1.02	0.224
(95% CI)	(0.04-2.01)	Ref.	(0.69-1.40)	(0.64-1.41)	(0.75-1.50)	(0.66-1.65)	(0.90-2.04)	(0.99-1.06)	

¹ Excess BMI defined in men as average of BMI at 18 yrs > 21.5 kg/m², at 35 yrs > 24.5 kg/m², at 50 years > 25 kg/m², and at current age > 25 kg/m². Among women it was defined as average of BMI at 18 yrs > 20.7 kg/m², at 35 yrs > 22.4 kg/m², at 50 years > 25 kg/m², and at current age > 25 kg/m². Subjects with BMI at entry less than 18.5 kg/m² were placed in a separate category regardless of excess BMI (all had to have had a negative value for excess BMI).

² MV HR: multivariable hazard ratios. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity, smoking, education, physical activity, and alcohol consumption, and for women, use of MHT. There was no adjustment for initial BMI or height.

³ Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain for a given time period was negative. There was missing location data for proximal and distal colon cancers in 70 men and 26 women.

Web Table 11 Risk of COLON cancer in relation to excess BMI across the lifetime among subjects who were overweight or obese at age 18 (BMI \geq 25.0) in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study cohort.¹

	Adulthood excess BMI (kg/m ²)							Hazard ratio per kg/m ² excess BMI ²	P for trend ²
	BMI < 18.5	0	<1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<6	≥ 6		
MEN									
Colon cases	0	5	11	17	61	83	87		
MV ³ HR (95% CI)	N/A	1.0 Ref.	1.04 (0.36-2.98)	0.66 (0.24-1.81)	0.67 (0.27-1.67)	0.98 (0.40-2.43)	0.92 (0.37-2.27)	1.04 (0.98-1.09)	0.20
WOMEN									
Colon cases	0	4	5	7	13	20	34		
MV HR (95% CI)	N/A	1.0 Ref.	0.98 (0.26-3.68)	1.11 (0.32-3.81)	0.80 (0.26-2.50)	1.42 (0.48-4.20)	1.11 (0.38-3.23)	1.02 (0.94-1.10)	0.62

¹Excess BMI defined in men as average of BMI at 18 yrs > 21.5 kg/m², at 35 yrs > 24.5 kg/m², at 50 years > 25 kg/m², and at current age > 25 kg/m². Among women it was defined as average of BMI at 18 yrs > 20.7 kg/m², at 35 yrs > 22.4 kg/m², at 50 years > 25 kg/m², and at current age > 25 kg/m². Subjects with BMI at entry less than 18.5 kg/m² were placed in a separate category regardless of excess BMI (all had to have had a negative value for excess BMI). All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity, smoking, education, physical activity, and alcohol consumption, and for women, use of MHT. There was no adjustment for initial BMI or height.

²Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain for a given time period was negative.

Web Table 12 Tests for interactions between age and weight change by incident colorectal cancer sites over 3 consecutive age intervals among men and women in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	P value for interaction between age and weight change
Men	
Weight change from age 18 to age 35 years	
Colon	0.629
Proximal	0.262
Distal	0.417
Rectal	0.931
Weight change from age 35 to age 50 years	
Colon	0.043
Proximal	0.077
Distal	0.538
Rectal	0.305
Weight change from age 50 to baseline age	
Colon	0.327
Proximal	0.519
Distal	0.273
Rectal	0.415
Weight change from age 18 to baseline age	
Colon	0.211
Proximal	0.597
Distal	0.348
Rectal	0.659
Women	
Weight change from age 18 to age 35 years	
Colon	0.894
Proximal	0.598
Distal	0.444
Rectal	0.555
Weight change from age 35 to age 50 years	
Colon	0.983
Proximal	0.758
Distal	0.696
Rectal	0.202
Weight change from age 50 to baseline age	
Colon	0.707
Proximal	0.746
Distal	0.985
Rectal	0.745
Weight change from age 18 to baseline age	
Colon	0.919
Proximal	0.775
Distal	0.514
Rectal	0.476

Web Table 13 Tests for interactions between gender and weight change by incident colorectal cancer sites over 3 consecutive age intervals among men and women in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study cohort

	P value for interaction between sex and weight change
Weight change from age 18 to age 35 years	
Colon	0.226
Proximal	0.177
Distal	0.479
Rectal	0.330
Weight change from age 35 to age 50 years	
Colon	0.595
Proximal	0.449
Distal	0.885
Rectal	0.913
Weight change from age 50 to baseline age	
Colon	0.001
Proximal	0.0001
Distal	0.522
Rectal	0.997
Weight change from age 18 to baseline age	
Colon	0.002
Proximal	0.0008
Distal	0.332
Rectal	0.687

Web Table 14 Relative risk of incident COLON cancer in relation to weight change over 3 consecutive age intervals (unadjusted for weight at the beginning of each interval) among men and women in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study cohort.¹

	Average Yearly Weight Change					HR per 0.5 kg/yr ²	P for trend ²
	Loss ≤-0.50 kg/yr	Stable >(-0.50) – (+0.50) kg/yr	Gain >0.50 - 1.00 kg/yr	Gain >1.00-2.00 kg/yr	Gain >2 kg/yr		
MEN							
18 to 35 years							
CASES	24	893	797	315	41		
MV HR	1.02	1.0	1.17	1.28	1.90	1.16	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.68-1.53)	Ref.	(1.06-1.29)	(1.12-1.46)	(1.37-2.64)	(1.10-1.23)	
35 to 50 years							
CASES	61	1380	448	166	15		
MV HR	0.98	1.0	1.06	1.08	0.95	1.03	0.35
(95% CI)	(0.75-1.28)	Ref.	(0.95-1.19)	(0.91-1.28)	(0.56-1.62)	(0.97-1.10)	
50 years to baseline							
CASES	125	1371	345	182	47		
MV HR	1.01	1.0	1.03	1.29	1.30	1.07	0.005
(95% CI)	(0.83-1.23)	Ref.	(0.91-1.16)	(1.10-1.52)	(0.96-1.75)	(1.02-1.11)	
18 years to baseline							
CASES	4	1346	626	93	1		
MV HR	1.17	1.0	1.18	1.51	1.10	1.26	<.0001
(95% CI)	(0.44- 3.13)	Ref.	(1.07-1.30)	(1.21-1.88)	(0.15-7.80)	(1.14-1.40)	
WOMEN							
18 to 35 years							
CASES	33	675	206	42	6		
MV HR	1.14	1.0	1.12	1.20	2.56	1.14	0.02
(95% CI)	(0.81-1.63)	Ref.	(0.95-1.31)	(0.88-1.66)	(1.15-5.73)	(1.02-1.27)	
35 to 50 years							
CASES	20	647	202	72	21		
MV HR	1.10	1.0	1.06	0.97	1.84	1.07	0.11
(95% CI)	(0.71-1.72)	Ref.	(0.90-1.25)	(0.75-1.25)	(1.18-2.86)	(0.98-1.15)	
50 years to baseline							
CASES	47	597	187	98	33		
MV HR	1.18	1.0	0.99	0.94	0.99	0.99	0.71
(95% CI)	(0.87-1.61)	Ref.	(0.84-1.17)	(0.76-1.18)	(0.69-1.44)	(0.93-1.05)	
18 years to baseline							
CASES	1	712	205	43	1		
MV HR	0.73	1.0	0.98	1.22	2.08	1.04	0.50
(95% CI)	(0.10-5.18)	Ref.	(0.84-1.16)	(0.88-1.68)	(0.29-14.88)	(0.92-1.18)	

¹MV HR: multivariable hazard ratios. All analyses are adjusted for age (in the baseline hazard of the Cox regression) and covariates: race/ethnicity; education, physical activity, smoking, and alcohol consumption. ²Calculated after excluding subjects whose average yearly weight gain was negative.