Sugar Consumption & Life Expectancy

Does excessive sugar consumption lead to lower life expectancy globally?

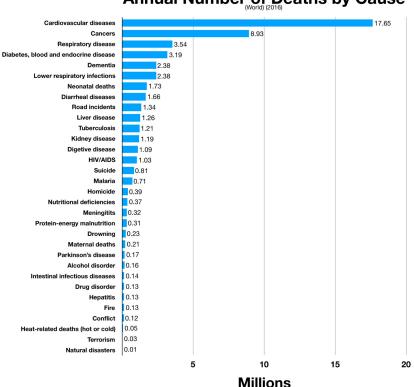




 Many studies have linked excessive sugar consumption to a higher risk of developing obesity and diabetes.

 A 15 year study by Harvard researchers found people who got 17% to 21% of their calories from refined sugar had a 38% higher risk of dying from cardiovascular disease than those who consumed only 8% of their calories as refined sugar.

Annual Number of Deaths by Cause



Sources: Harvard Health Education, NIH Obesity Study,

Diabetes.Co.Uk

Recommendations vs Reality

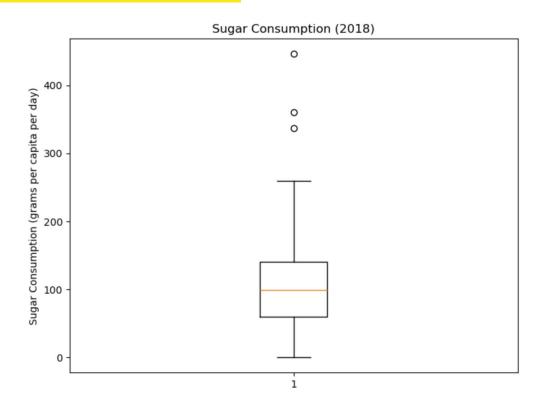
American Heart Association:

- o 38 grams men
- 25 grams women

National Health Service:

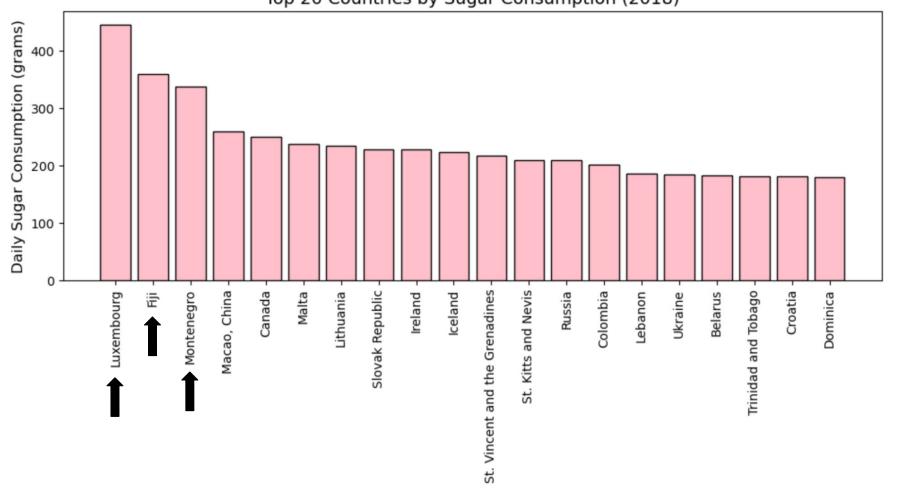
25 grams

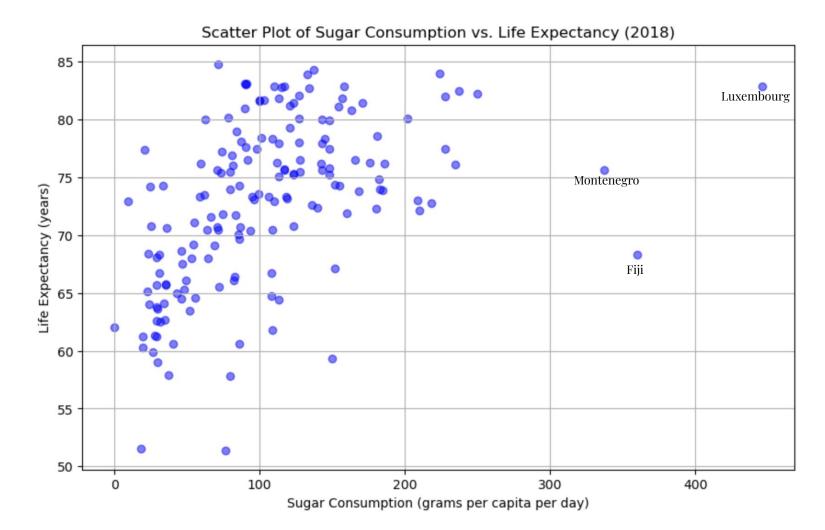




- 166 countries around the world
- Most people were consuming 50-150g per day

Top 20 Countries by Sugar Consumption (2018)





Conclusions

I was not able to find a consistent correlation between excessive sugar consumption and lower life expectancy. This is likely due to the fact that life expectancy is multifactorial.

- Access to Healthcare
- Socioeconomic Status
- Physical Activity
- Environmental Factors
- Genetic Factors
- Public Health Policies and Interventions