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Artigo Original

2 TENDÊNCIAS DE COMPORTAMENTO SEDENTÁRIO ENTRE 3 ESTUDANTES DO SUL DO BRASIL

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22 **Resumo**

23 **Introdução:** O comportamento sedentário tem sido motivo de preocupação para os
24 pesquisadores no mundo, especialmente no Brasil. **Objetivo:** Este estudo comparou
25 a atividade física moderada-vigorosa e o comportamento sedentário em dois anos
26 de dois levantamentos (2008 e 2017), relacionando esses comportamentos à
27 circunferência abdominal. **Métodos:** Estudo transversal, com 1.783 alunos, de
28 ambos os sexos, com idade entre 10 e 17 anos: 2008 (n = 977) e 2017 (n = 806). Os
29 estudos foram realizados em escolas públicas de um município do sul do Brasil. O
30 nível de atividade física foi avaliado por meio de um questionário de gasto
31 energético. A circunferência abdominal foi considerada alta $\geq 75^{\text{o}}$ percentil para
32 idade e sexo. Os estudantes foram agrupados de acordo com os níveis de atividade
33 física moderada-vigorosa. O tempo sentado foi considerado comportamento
34 sedentário. **Resultados:** A proporção de meninos ativos em 2008 (62,2%) foi maior
35 do que em 2017 (34,1%; $p < 0,001$), enquanto a frequência de obesidade abdominal
36 foi maior em 2017 (meninos 36,3%, meninas 25,5%) do que em 2008 (15,7% e
37 10,5%; $p < 0,001$, respectivamente). Em 2017, houve um aumento de 2,8 vezes no
38 risco de prevalência de circunferência abdominal aumentada em relação a 2008 (p
39 $< 0,001$), que foi diretamente relacionado ao aumento de 16,5 vezes no risco de
40 comportamento sedentário elevado ($p < 0,001$) e duas vezes de aumento em quem
41 pratica atividade física moderada-vigorosa $< 60\text{min} / \text{dia}$ ($p < 0,001$). **Conclusão:** O
42 risco de obesidade abdominal aumentou na última década em ambos os sexos, o
43 que parece ser principalmente devido ao comportamento sedentário, além do
44 menor nível de atividade física moderada-vigorosa em meninos.

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46 **Palavras-chave:** Comportamento sedentário, Circunferência abdominal,
47 Antropometria, Adolescentes, Atividade física.

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Original Article

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TRENDS IN SEDENTARY BEHAVIOR AMONG THE SOUTH

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BRAZILIAN STUDENTS

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Abstract

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Introduction: Sedentary behavior has been a matter of concern for researchers around the world, especially in Brazil. **Objective:** This study compared the moderate–vigorous physical activity and sedentary behavior between the years of two surveys (2008 and 2017), relating these behaviors to waist circumference.

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Methods: Cross sectional study, included 1783 students, both sexes, aged 10 to 17 years were considered: 2008 (n = 977) and 2017 (n = 806). The studies were carried out in public schools in the municipality of southern Brazil. The level of physical activity was assessed through an energy expenditure questionnaire. The waist circumference was considered high ≥ 75 th percentile for age and sex. The students were grouped according to the levels of moderate–vigorous physical activity. Sitting time was used as a proxy of sedentary behavior. **Results:** The proportion of active boys in 2008 (62.2%) was higher than in 2017 (34.1%; $p < 0.001$) while the frequency of abdominal obesity was higher in 2017 (boys 36.3%, girls 25.5%) than in 2008 (15.7% and 10.5%; $p < 0.001$, respectively). In 2017, there was a 2.8 times increased prevalence risk of increased WC compared to 2008 ($p < 0.001$), which was directly related to 16.5 times increase in the risk of elevated sedentary behavior ($p < 0.001$) and two times increase who practice moderate–vigorous physical activity < 60 min/day ($p < 0.001$). **Conclusion:** The risk of abdominal obesity increased during the last decade in both sexes, which appears to be mainly due to the sedentary behavior, in addition to the lower level of moderate–vigorous physical activity in boys.

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Keywords: Sedentary behaviors; Waist circumference; Anthropometry; Adolescents; Physical activity.

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Article original

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TENDANCES DU COMPORTEMENT SÉDENTAIRE CHEZ LES

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ÉTUDIANTS DU SUD DU BRÉSIL

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Résumé

87 **Introduction:** Le comportement sédentaire a été un sujet de préoccupation pour
88 les chercheurs du monde entier, en particulier au Brésil. **Objectif:** Cette étude a
89 comparé une activité physique modérée à vigoureuse et un comportement
90 sédentaire sur deux ans de deux enquêtes (2008 et 2017), en reliant ces
91 comportements au tour de taille. **Méthodes:** Étude transversale, auprès de 1 783
92 élèves, des deux sexes, âgés de 10 à 17 ans : 2008 (n = 977) et 2017 (n = 806). Les
93 études ont été menées dans des écoles publiques d'une municipalité du sud du
94 Brésil. Le niveau d'activité physique a été évalué à l'aide d'un questionnaire sur la
95 dépense énergétique. Le tour de taille était considéré comme élevé \geq 75e centile
96 pour l'âge et le sexe. Les élèves ont été regroupés selon des niveaux d'activité
97 physique modérée à vigoureuse. Le temps passé assis était considéré comme un
98 comportement sédentaire. **Résultats:** La proportion de garçons actifs en 2008
99 (62,2 %) était plus élevée qu'en 2017 (34,1 % ; $p < 0,001$), tandis que la fréquence
100 de l'obésité abdominale était plus élevée en 2017 (garçons 36,3 %, filles 25,5 %)
101 qu'en 2008 (15,7 % et 10,5 % ; $p < 0,001$, respectivement). En 2017, il y a eu une
102 augmentation de 2,8 fois du risque de prévalence d'augmentation du tour de taille
103 par rapport à 2008 ($p < 0,001$), ce qui était directement lié à l'augmentation de
104 16,5 fois du risque de comportement sédentaire élevé ($p < 0,001$) et deux fois plus
105 élevé chez ceux qui pratiquent une activité physique modérée-vigoureuse $<$
106 60min/jour ($p < 0,001$). **Conclusion:** Le risque d'obésité abdominale a augmenté
107 au cours de la dernière décennie chez les deux sexes, ce qui semble être
108 principalement dû à un comportement sédentaire, en plus du niveau inférieur
109 d'activité physique modérée à vigoureuse chez les garçons.

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111 **Mots clés:** Comportement sédentaire, Circonférence abdominale, Anthropométrie,
112 Adolescents, Activité physique.

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Artículo original

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TENDENCIAS EN EL COMPORTAMIENTO SEDENTARIO ENTRE ESTUDIANTES

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DEL SUR DE BRASIL

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Resumen

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Palabras clave: Sedentarismo, Circunferencia abdominal, Antropometría, Adolescentes, Actividad física.

151

152 **Introdução**

153 In the past decade, children and adolescents' sedentary behavior (SB) have increased,
154 which is attributable primarily to technological entertainment activities
155 (FERREIRA,2016; BANDEIRA,2018; RIBEIRO, 2020). Studies indicate that the
156 increased time spent watching television, playing video games, and even using
157 smartphones excessively, leads to reduced sleep, which contributes to inadequate eating
158 habits that damage children and adolescents' health (BANDEIRA,2018;
159 TEIXEIRA,2020).

160 The reduced participation in physical activities (PA) and higher caloric consumption
161 have led to an increase in cardiometabolic diseases that decrease the quality of life in
162 adolescence and adulthood⁴. Increased body weight and the accumulation of visceral fat
163 also damage health because of increased systemic inflammation (KONING,
164 2015;CARSON, 2016; TEIXEIRA, 2020), which is associated with type 2 diabetes,
165 high blood pressure and cholesterol and some types of câncer (KONING,
166 2015;CARSON, 2016; TEIXEIRA, 2020).

167 Accordingly, PA has been identified as an important component in a healthy lifestyle,
168 together with adequate nutrition, both of which improve all aspects of adolescents' lives
169 and development. Regular and adequate PA should be recognized as an element
170 essential to normal growth and development during adolescence, as well as reduced risk
171 of future diseases (KONING, 2015; CARSON, 2016; TEIXEIRA, 2020). To realize
172 these health benefits, current international recommendations suggest that adolescent's
173 practice at least 60 minutes or more per day of moderate to vigorous intensity physical
174 activity (MVPA) most days of the week, and include muscle strength and stretching
175 activities at least three days per week (WHO, 2019).

176 However, despite these recommendations, practicing MVPA regularly over 420 minutes
177 per week is not part of most adolescents' daily reality (CARSON, 2016). Instead, the
178 time adolescents devote to PA in their routines has declined and the time spent in SB
179 has increased. However, no published studies to date have evaluated the 10-year trend
180 in the time Brazilian adolescents spend in PA and SB. In this sense, two cohorts at two
181 different times such as these are important to analyze technological changes' influence
182 on MVPA and SB routines, as well as potential gender differences. In addition, we
183 performed a temporal analysis in relation to changes in behaviors in adolescents and how
184 the waist circumference is associated, since these attitudes lead to the appearance of
185 general and abdominal obesity (KONING, 2015).

186 The fact that comparing adolescents in different years brings indications of behaviors
187 and public policies adopted for this population and which direction the role of physical
188 activity or exercise is taking in this age group. Based on the considerations pointed out,
189 the objective of this study was to analyze changes in moderate–vigorous physical
190 activity (MVPA) and sedentary behavior (SB) and waist circumference (WC) over time
191 (2008 and 2017) in two cohorts in adolescents.

192 **Methods**

193 *Sample and Ethics Committee*

194 In both studies the schools are different, but from the same municipality. In the
195 2008 study, the sample is representative and 2017 was for convenience. In the 2008
196 study, the schools included in the study were intentionally divided by Curitiba regions
197 (north, south, east, west, and center). The schools were chosen by draw. In this way, one
198 school from each region was included in the analyses. The students were evaluated
199 according to their sex and age group. Probabilistic analysis was first performed on all
200 students enrolled in each educational institution according to sex, before the sample size
201 was evaluated according to the following criteria: (a) Total number of boys and girls; (b)
202 95% confidence interval; and (c) sample error of 5% and a prevalence of 50%, since the
203 prevalence of risk factors in this population is unknown. The study was approved by the
204 Ethics Committee on Research in Human Beings of the Federal University of Parana
205 under registry CEP: 1466.131 / 2007-06 and CAAE: 0137.0.208.0007. The participants
206 in the 2017 study were selected by simple random sampling, from a nominal list with all
207 students since you serve the age group of the survey. Participants are also from one state
208 school in the municipality of Curitiba. However, only 806 students that answered all
209 questionnaires were subjected to anthropometric assessments (weight and height) This
210 research was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of University Positivo -
211 Paraná (Opinion 2,751,691/ 2018 and CAAE Registry (80779117.3.3001.0102).

212

213 *Participants and Design*

214 The data for this observational and descriptive study was collected transversely
215 as part of an epidemiological survey. The study sample comprised 1,783 students

216 enrolled in public schools in the city of Curitiba, State of Paraná, in the years 2008 ($n =$
217 977) and 2017 ($n = 806$). Some 58.2% of the sample were girls ($n = 1,039$) and 41.8%
218 ($n = 744$) were boys. The mean age was 14 years. Curitiba is in the southern region of
219 Brazil, in the east of the state of Paraná, specifically in its less wavy part. It is the capital
220 of the sixth most populous federative unit in Brazil. Curitiba uses the georeferencing
221 system to enroll its students. That is why there are different socioeconomic levels in
222 each school and region.

223

224 *Instruments*

225 The students were evaluated in their respective schools by the peer review team
226 consisting of physical education specialists. waist circumference (WC) were evaluated
227 in the morning, whereby the students were instructed to wear light clothing. The WC
228 was measured with flexible and inextensible tape, accurate to 0.1 cm. The WC was
229 considered elevated if above the 75th percentile for age and gender, classified according
230 to the approach adopted by Fernandez (2004).

231 The level of physical activity was assessed through an energy expenditure
232 questionnaire developed by Bouchard et al.(1983). The questionnaire consists of 96
233 periods, with activity log every 15-minutes, with daily activities classified into a
234 continuum of nine intensity categories (with category 1 corresponding to the lowest
235 intensity level), whereby the average caloric expenditure is calculated for each recorded
236 activity. According to the estimated caloric expenditure, students were classified into
237 four groups: active (> 420 minutes of activity per week), sufficiently active (between
238 300 and 419 minutes of activity per week), insufficiently active (150–299 minutes of
239 activity per week), and inactive (less than 149 minutes of physical activity per week).
240 The durations of periods pertaining to lying down, sitting, mild physical activity (mild
241 PA), and moderate–vigorous physical activity (MVPA) were also recorded in minutes
242 per day. For analysis purposes, seated time was considered SB.

243

244 *Statistical Analyses*

245

246 The sample power of the study was calculated *a posteriori* using software
247 program G * power3 with the number of individuals in the full sample (1,783) and
248 MVPA as the dependent variable, OR: 2.078; prevalence of insufficient MVPA of 60%,
249 α of 0.05 and proportion of students (54%) that were evaluated in 2008, which

250 identified a power ($1 - \beta$) of 1.00 for the binomial logistic regression.

251 The studied variables were expressed in means and standard deviations, as well
252 as absolute and relative frequencies. Shapiro/ Kolmogorov tests were used to assess
253 used to assess normality of the data distribution. To estimate the differences between
254 means, the Student t-test was applied for the parametric data while the Mann-Whitney
255 U-test was adopted for non-parametric data. The categorical variables were assessed via
256 Pearson / Yates chi-squared test. Odds ratio (OR) analysis with a 95% confidence
257 interval (CI) was conducted to identify the chance of having high time in SB and WC,
258 and insufficient PAL between 2008 and 2017, adjusted for sex and age group. For all
259 tests a significance level of 5% was used and the sample yielded 95% test power. The
260 Statistic 10.0 (StatsoftR) software tool was used for all analyses.

261 **Results**

262 The general characteristics of the study are shown in table 1. In the period 2008-
263 2017, the mean age was similar for boys and girls. In 2008, both girls and boys were
264 heavier and taller compared to schoolchildren in the 2017 study ($p < 0.001$).

265 The girls in the 2017 study had higher abdominal circumference (25.4%) than
266 the first (10%, $p < 0.001$). Average time of MVPA and time lying down were higher for
267 both sexes in the 2008 study, while the average levels of LPA, sitting time and
268 sedentary time were higher in the 2017 study. Boys and girls in the 2008 study were
269 more active than those in the 2017 study ($p < 0.001$), with exception in the group of girls
270 who practice physical activity above 420 minutes / week. (Table 1)

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Table 1 - Characteristics of adolescents analyzed. Curitiba, Paraná, PR, Brazil.

Variables	2008 girls (n=559)	2017girls (n=480)	p	2008 boys (n=418)	2017 boys (n=326)	p
Age(years)	14,1±1,5	14,0±1,2	0,62	14,0±1,5	13,9±2,0	0,30
WC (cm)	64,3±10,5 ^a	66,6±8,4	<0,001*	76,6±9,4	70,3±9,4	<0,001*
PAL_mv (min/day)	25(0-640)	0(0-345)	<0,001**	85(0-545)	0(0-510)	<0,001**
PAL_light(min/day)	220(0-745)	255(15-600)	<0,001**	160(0-855)	240(30-585)	<0,001**
Sitting time(min/day)	510(0-1040)	615(195-1110)	<0,001**	495(0-895)	615(90-1020)	<0,001**
Time lying down(min/day)	580(0-1040)	525(90-900)	<0,001**	590(0-1040)	525(105-1125)	<0,001**
PAL< 149 min/week	27.8±51.0	3.4±18.7	<0.0001**	22.0±45.7	3.7±19.4	0.01*
PAL<299 -150 min/week	238.4±43.1	210	0.03*	240±38.4	210	0.003*
PAL <419 -300 min/week	342.2±26.3	315	0.0001*	351.2±27.3	315	0.008*
> 420 min/week	948.1±658.4	881.1±409.0	0.80	1055.1±528.8	914.7±503.8	0.004*

NOTE: Values expressed as means ± SD; WC waist circumference; * t test (parametric variables); for non-parametric variables; ** Mann-Whitney test;

277

278 Table 2 shows the relative frequencies of weight gain, increased circumference,
279 and different cuts in physical activity levels between 2008 and 2017.

Table 2. Relative frequencies of abdominal circumference and different cuts in physical activity levels between 2008 and 2017. Curitiba,Paraná,PR, Brazil.

Variables	2008 girls (%) (n=559)	2017girls (%) (n=480)	p	2008 boys (%) (n=418)	2017 boys (%) (n=326)	p
Abdominal obesity	10.0	25.4	<0,001*	15.1	36.2	<0,001*
> 420 minutes/week	34	30.8	<0,001*	62.2	34.1	<0,0001*
<419-300 minutes/week	54.5	54.8	0.58	29.2	48.1	0.35
150-299 minutes/week	11.5	2.3	0.69	8.6	3.1	0.92
<149 minutes/week	12.1	--	N/A	---	14.7	N/A

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281 Figure 1 presents a comparison between boys and girls in both periods in terms
282 of the daily time (in minutes) spent in MVPA, light PA, sitting and lying down
283 activities.

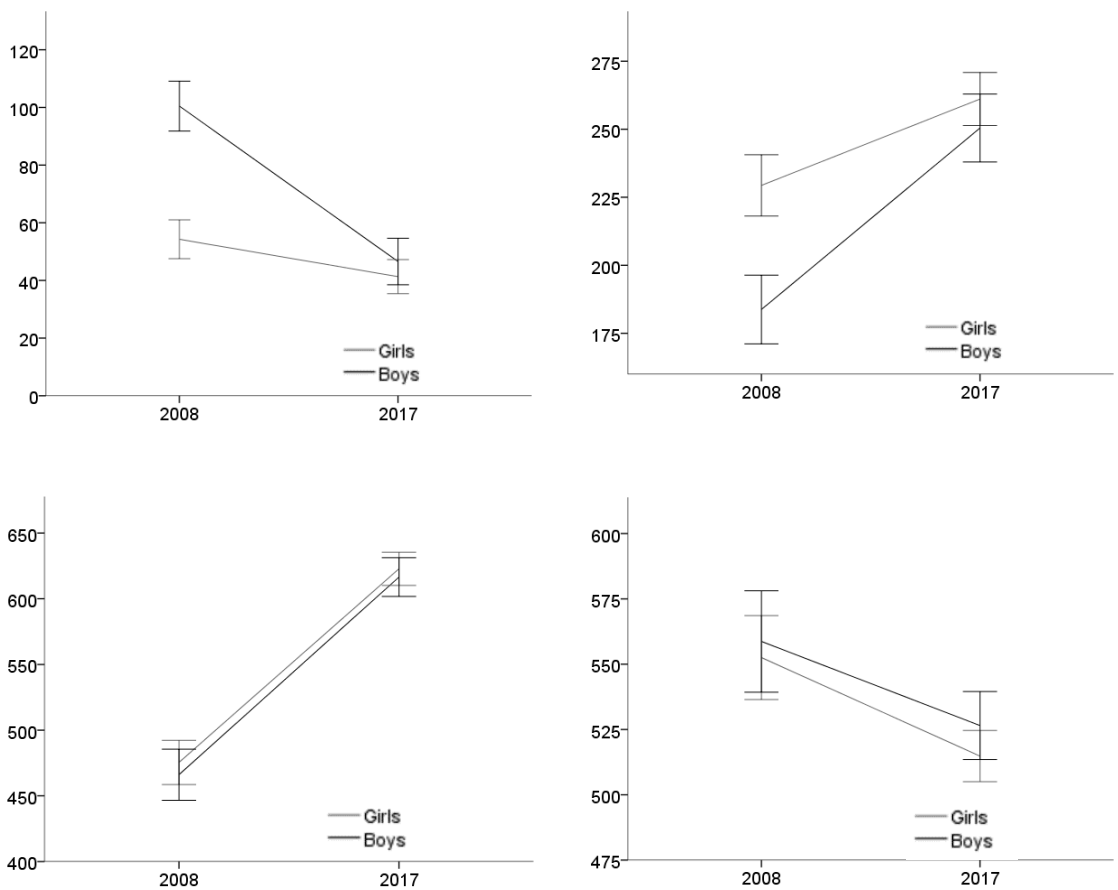
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Figure 1. Chart of the changes in the practice of light, moderate-vigorous physical activities, sitting and lying down time in girls and boys between 2008 and 2017. A - Average practice of MVPA (min / day); B - Mean time in PA-mild (min / day); C - Average sitting time in (min / day); D - Mean of lying down time (min / day).



Source: The autor (2019);

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289 Table 3 shows the risk for changes in lifestyle and waist circumference adjusted
 290 for sex and age. Over the 10-year period analyzed in this study, there was a significant
 291 increase in the risk of elevated WC, insufficient PA levels and SB (p <0.001).

292

293

Table 3- Risk of chance for changes in lifestyle and abdominal circumference. Curitiba, PR, Brazil.

	Odds Ratio OR	Confidence Interval (CI)	p
High WC	2.879	(2.215 - 3.740)	<0.001
SB>300min/day	16.482	(7.947 - 34.181)	<0.001
PAL<420/week	2.078	(1.682 - 2.567)	<0.001

Note: WC(waist circumference); SB (sedentary behavior); PAL (physical activity level); * adjusted by sex and age ** reference 2008;

Source: The Author (2019)

294 Discussion

295 The present study compared the practice of physical activities, sedentary
 296 behavior, and abdominal obesity of two cohorts of adolescents over a period of 10 years
 297 (2008 and 2017) and revealed that adolescents evaluated in 2017 presented worse
 298 outcomes than those evaluated in 2008, corroborating with other studies (SCHAAN,
 299 2019; YANG, 2019; WHO,2020). Boys also presented lower frequency and time in
 300 MVPA than in fun activities. This reduction in PA and increase in SB in adolescents in
 301 recent years is worrisome. However, this is the first study that verified the time spent by
 302 Brazilian adolescents in physical activity and sedentary behavior in the period after 10
 303 years.

304 Studies such as Yang et al.(2019) pointed out that the practice of physical
 305 activity reduces the excess risk associated with sitting time. According to the World
 306 Health Organization (WHO), children and adolescents should be encouraged to perform
 307 at least 60 minutes of MVPA daily and that PA performed in amounts over 60 minutes

308 per day provides additional health benefits.

309 In 2018, the Global Action Plan on Physical Activity (2018–2030) first adopted
310 the reduction of sedentary behavior as one strategy for the prevention and control of
311 chronic global disease (MCMILLAN, 2015). From this perspective, a systematic review
312 study showed that most Brazilian adolescents spent more than two hours per day on
313 screen time (RIBEIRO, 2020). Similarly, 36% of Americans, 59.2% of Spanish
314 adolescents, and 80.6% of Canadians exhibit the same behavior (WHO, 2020). These
315 alarming results generate the need for special attention to SB. In the present study, the
316 risk of adolescents staying more than two hours per day in a sitting position increased
317 approximately 16.5-fold over the last decade. In addition, students spent more time
318 sitting in 2017, with a significant difference, showing that there was an increase in
319 sedentary behavior, especially in activities related to electronic games, cell phone use,
320 always in a sitting position.

321 Another similar study among American adolescents found that in 2001–2016,
322 the estimated prevalence of watching television or video games for at least two hours in
323 the general period remained low and stable and the estimated prevalence of computer
324 use during leisure time increased across all age groups (WHO, 2020). In Brazil,
325 television time has declined over the last ten years, so there has been a change in
326 behavior among young people, particularly among boys, where cell phone and
327 smartphone technology has gained adherence from the public, which we define as
328 recreational time. Accompanying this increase, there was an increase in studies
329 reporting strategies to reduce screen-time exposure (STIERLIN, 2015; GUERRA, 2016;
330 Wafa, 2016).

331 Wafa et al. (2016) showed strong evidence that interventions aimed at reducing
332 recreational time and increasing physical activity or adopting a healthier diet were
333 effective for improving or maintaining weight. In contrast, Andermo et al.(2015)
334 observed a small effect among interventions where the goal was to reduce sedentary
335 behavior and therefore concluded that future studies should involve both children and
336 families in strategies to reduce sedentary behavior.

337 In Brazil, the results of the National School Health Survey (PeNSE, 2015),
338 which involved Brazilian adolescents in the ninth grade of elementary education
339 throughout all regions of the country and used the cut-off point of >300 min/week to
340 define MVPA, found that 44.0% of boys reported engaging in weekly physical activity
341 (PA) for ≥ 300 minutes, while slightly more than 25.0% of girls were in this group.

342 These results were similar to those found in our 2017 study (35.9% for boys). However,
343 among girls, our results were higher than those found in PeNSE (54.8%) and higher
344 than the average found in the state of Paraná (38.5%) (CUREAU, 2019). Another
345 nationwide school-based study involving Brazilian adolescents aged 12–17 years in
346 municipalities with >100,000 inhabitants, known as the Cardiovascular Risk Study in
347 Adolescents (ERICA, 2016), showed that more than half of Brazilian adolescents living
348 in medium- and large-size cities does not reach the recommendation of at least 300
349 min/week of physical activity in leisure for health promotion. This percentage is even
350 higher among girls, surpassing 70.0%. In Curitiba, 67.7% of the girls and 40.7% of the
351 boys engaged in PA for >300 minutes/week, these frequencies were much higher than
352 those found in our study, which is possibly because ERICA analyzed PA with a lower
353 cut-off than ours (CURITIBA, 2018).

354 This study found that, in both years, the risk of elevated WC, insufficient PA
355 levels and SB increased significantly among school children in the southern region of
356 Brazil. These results support the concern that overweight and obesity levels are
357 escalating. However, recent studies have begun to associate excess weight with
358 behavioral factors such as sitting time associated with the use of cell phones, tablets and
359 other electronics (STIERLIN, 2015; GUERRA, 2016; Wafa, 2016). Long periods of
360 sitting may increase the accumulation of body fat in the abdominal region, a factor that
361 leads to larger abdominal circumference sizes and other cardiometabolic risks,
362 beginning in early childhood and extending into adult life. Previous studies have shown
363 an association between increased visceral fat, abdominal obesity and increased
364 hypertension, the onset of type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer and cardiovascular
365 diseases (YOUNG, 2016; RAJJO, 2017;GOLESTANZADEH, 2019;RING-DIMITRIOU,
366 2019; LIMA, 2020;PADILLA-MOLEDO, 2020;TOZO, 2020).

367 Interventions that stimulate the transition from complete physical inactivity to
368 some activity, regardless of the amount or intensity of physical activity initially
369 practiced, may have an immediate impact on the health of these adolescents. This
370 strategy may be used complementary to programs aimed at maintaining or gradually
371 increasing the practice of physical activity. Outdoor active leisure activities are suitable
372 ways of promoting PA in adolescence (RAJJO, 2017;GOLESTANZADEH,
373 2019;RING-DIMITRIOU, 2019; LIMA, 2020).

374 Moderate intensity physical activities, such as walking, pedaling or playing
375 sports, bring significant health benefits, especially in regard to energy balance and

376 weight control (RING-DIMITRIOU, 2019; YOUNG, 2016). For adults, the
377 recommendation of the American Heart Association is "Sit "Less, move more", because
378 there is insufficient evidence regarding the exact amount of sedentary behavior
379 negatively correlated with the maximization of the benefits to cardiovascular health
380 (EKLUND, 2016). Ekelund et al. showed that one hour of MVPA daily can eliminate
381 the harmful effects of eight hours of sitting time in men and women. Nevertheless,
382 sedentary screen time is likely to be more harmful to children and adolescents than to
383 adults.

384 In the face of what is observed in adults, the question that many researchers
385 have been asking themselves is: does the amount of physical activity practiced by more
386 physically active children compensate for the possible effects of sedentary behavior on
387 health? It is noteworthy that this was the first study that compared the behavior of
388 Brazilian adolescents with different levels of PA over a 10-year period. However, there
389 is a need for further research to clarify what exactly children do during the time spent
390 sitting. It is presumed that they were on their cell phones or using their computers for
391 recreation. In addition, due to the increased portability of electronic devices, the time
392 spent in the lying position should also be considered and future studies should seek to
393 identify the time spent on sleep and the time spent on electronic media. In this sense, it
394 is known that the lying position has been used to watch television and, more recently, to
395 use smartphones with various entertainment tools such as games and social media apps
396 as these factors may affect sleep pattern and routine (WAFSA, 2016; AANDERMO,
397 2020;WHO, 2020). The greater amount of time spent awake and the smaller amount of
398 restful sleep can lead to daytime drowsiness, attention deficits and hinder the execution
399 of daily activities, compromising their health as well as their performance at work and
400 school(WAFSA, 2016). Future studies should fill these gaps in order to allow a better
401 understanding of the changes in the use of free time by young people.

402 This research has some limitations that should be taken into consideration. One
403 of them is its cross-sectional, which not allow to make inferences of causality. Another
404 limitation was the use of an activity recall questionnaire, which should be interpreted
405 with caution. In addition, the participants were not assessed for sexual maturation,
406 nutritional status, eating in front of the television, amount of time sitting spent with
407 electronic devices and with other activities. On the other hand, the instruments most
408 commonly used in epidemiological research and in clinical practice are questionnaires
409 and group or individual interviews, which seek to identify the discrepancies between the

410 actual and the desired body size, as well as associated feelings, emotions, behaviors and
411 attitudes. In addition to being simple, practical, and cheap, they can be used in
412 population studies and in clinical practice for a variety of purposes.

413

414 **Conclusion**

415 It is concluded that, the risk of prevalence of abdominal obesity increased in the
416 last decade in both sexes, which appears to be associated with systemic inflammation.
417 These results raise the concern about the appearance of cardiometabolic risk factors in
418 schoolchildren. Moreover, the lower practice of MVPA in boys may be associated with
419 changes that more directly affected males, with more active daily activities being
420 replaced by video game use. It is therefore important to reduce the sedentary leisure
421 habits among adolescents of both sexes, in addition to encouraging the practice of
422 MVPA, a habit that is associated with health promotion in all age groups.

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424 Não nenhum conflito de interesses no presente estudo.

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