

# Nutritional surveillance in Chilean schoolchildren: Validity of the information

## Vigilancia nutricional en escolares chilenos: Validez de la información

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Background: Anthropometry is used to survey health and nutritional situation of the population.

Therefore the quality of the information that is being used must be evaluated. Aim: To estimate the

agreement in weight, height and nutritional status in school-children, comparing measurements

made by teachers in schools and a standardized and supervised team of professionals. Material and

methods: Cross sectional study, including 927 school-children in 31 schools from 7 counties of

Santiago. Schools were randomly chosen and the universe of children attending to first grade was

measured. Weight, height and nutritional status collected by teachers and researches, were

compared. Results: Total agreement for nutritional status reached 0.67, random-weighted Kappa

was 0.40 and weighted Kappa, 0.42. Teachers tended to over diagnose under-nutrition and under

diagnose overweight and obesity, measuring 270 grams less than the qualified team ( $p < 0.001$ ) and

1.7 cm more in height ( $p < 0.001$ ), what is re