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**Title:**

The Shape of Obesity

**Abstract:**

The mean body weight in the US increased by about 20 pounds between 1975 and 2005. However, the weight increase was not uniform across the population. The body mass index distribution has also become wider over that time. A third of the population is now obese, but a third seems to be immune to the obesity epidemic. Recent metabolic modeling has shown that the more body fat a person has the more weight they will gain for the same increase in caloric intake. Hence, it is possible that the spread in the distribution is caused by a uniform increase in food intake. I will address this question using Bayesian model comparison methods.