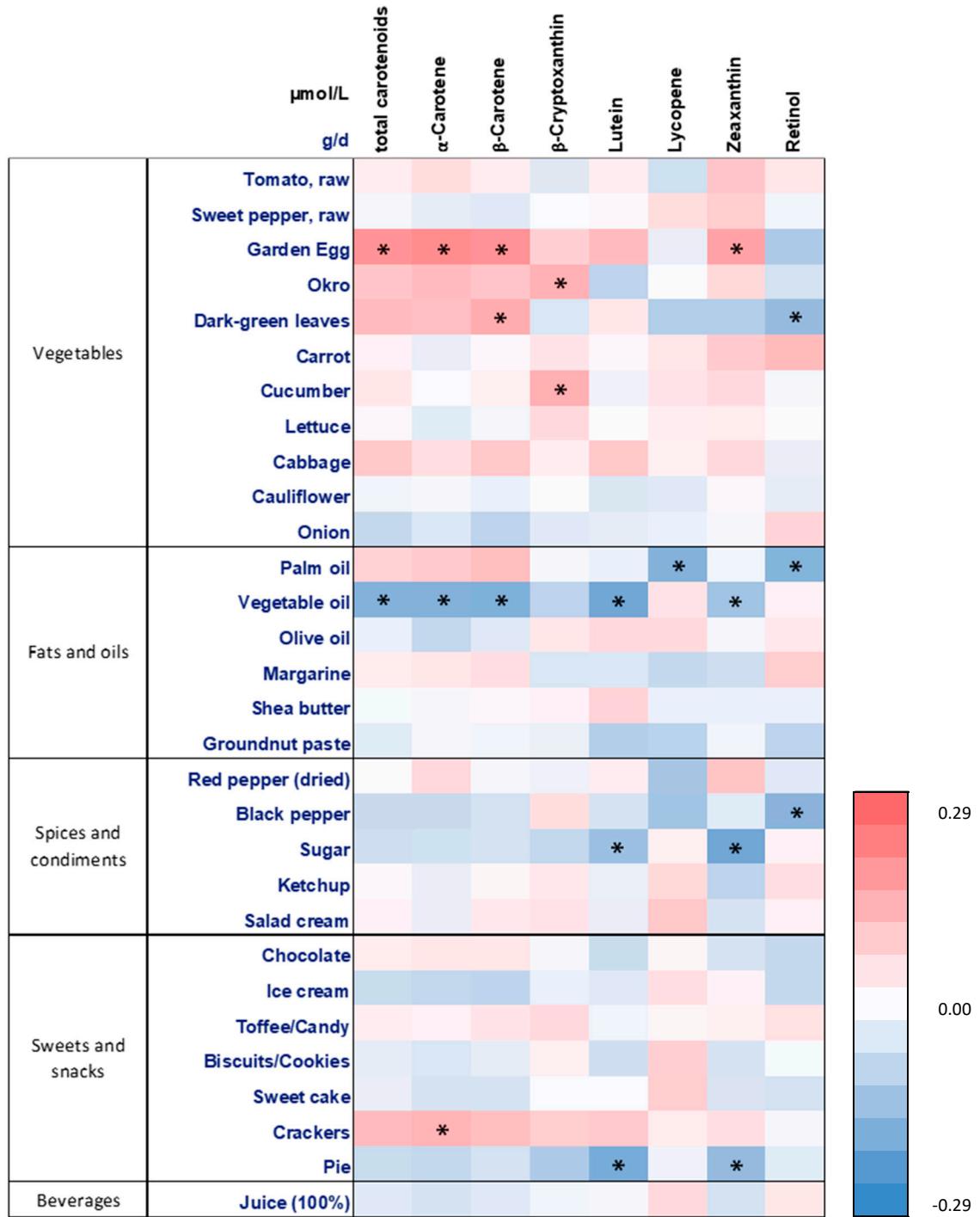


1

2 **Figure S1.** Spearman correlation of plasma carotenoid and retinol concentrations [ $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ] with calculated intake  
3 [g/d] per food group; \* $p<0.05$



4

5 Figure S1 (continued). Spearman correlation of plasma carotenoid and retinol concentrations [μmol/L] with  
6 calculated intake [g/d] per food group; \* $p<0.05$

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8   **Table S1.** Concentrations of retinol,  $\alpha$ -carotene,  $\beta$ -carotene,  $\beta$ -cryptoxanthin, lutein, lycopene and zeaxanthin  
 9   analysed in Standard Reference Material® 968d provided by the National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 10 (NIST).

Analyte	NIST Concentration of the SRM 968d	Potsdam Lab Measured concentration ( $n = 5$ )	CV%
<b>Retinol</b> ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	$1.09 \pm 0.17$	$1.04 \pm 0.04$	3.88
<b><math>\alpha</math>-carotene</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.018 \pm 0.004$	$0.008 \pm 0.001$	8.77
<b><math>\beta</math>-carotene</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.145 \pm 0.013$	$0.127 \pm 0.007$	5.27
<b><math>\beta</math>-cryptoxanthin</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.050 \pm 0.024$	$0.048 \pm 0.002$	3.63
<b>Lutein</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.085 \pm 0.028$	$0.076 \pm 0.007$	9.50
<b>Lycopene</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.517 \pm 0.063$	$0.440 \pm 0.022$	5.04
<b>Zeaxanthin</b> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.041 \pm 0.009$	$0.032 \pm 0.003$	10.06

11 Data are presented as means  $\pm$  standard deviations. CV, coefficient of variation.

**Table S2.** Concentrations of plasma total carotenoids, provitamin A and retinol, and vitamin A deficiency across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

n	total carotenoids [ $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ]	p-value	provitamin A [ $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ]	p-value	retinol [ $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ]	p-value	vitamin A deficient [%]	$\chi^2$ p-value
<b>rs6564851</b>								
TT	89	2.59 (2.21-3.50)		2.03 (1.66-2.80)		0.77 (0.64-0.92)		37.1 (33)
GT	82	3.22 (2.17-4.02)	0.111	2.69 (1.70-3.42)	0.110	0.77 (0.65-0.87)	0.748	35.4 (29)
GG	18	2.93 (2.16-3.80)		2.21 (1.68-3.27)		0.80 (0.62-0.96)		27.8 (5)
GT/GG	100	3.07 (2.17-4.02)	0.042	2.48 (1.69-3.38)	0.042	0.77 (0.64-0.88)	0.719	34.0 (34)
MAF	0.31							0.659
<b>rs7500996</b>								
TT	90	2.80 (2.10-3.78)		2.12 (1.66-3.27)		0.75 (0.62-0.90)		37.8 (34)
CT	76	3.07 (2.24-3.93)	0.486	2.51 (1.68-3.27)	0.492	0.78 (0.67-0.91)	0.613	30.3 (23)
CC	23	2.62 (2.17-3.23)		2.02 (1.70-2.41)		0.79 (0.62-0.94)		43.5 (10)
CT/CC	99	2.81 (2.23-3.83)	0.555	2.27 (1.70-3.23)	0.607	0.79 (0.65-0.92)	0.339	33.3 (33)
MAF	0.32							0.524
<b>rs10048138</b>								
GG	71	3.00 (2.08-4.05)		2.24 (1.61-3.33)		0.76 (0.62-0.89)		35.2 (25)
AG	92	2.77 (2.12-3.67)	0.708	2.11 (1.66-3.04)	0.631	0.78 (0.66-0.91)	0.822	32.6 (30)
AA	26	2.77 (2.31-3.98)		2.18 (1.88-3.45)		0.74 (0.64-0.94)		46.2 (12)
AG/AA	118	2.77 (2.21-3.76)	0.744	2.14 (1.70-3.22)	0.828	0.77 (0.65-0.92)	0.533	36.6 (42)
MAF	0.38							0.958

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**Table S2 (continued).** Concentrations of plasma total carotenoids, provitamin A and retinol, and vitamin A deficiency across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

<b>rs6420424</b>							
<b>GG</b>	63	2.93 (2.21-3.78)		2.18 (1.66-3.22)		0.77 (0.64-0.94)	36.5 (23)
<b>AG</b>	92	2.73 (2.09-3.78)	0.758	2.09 (1.63-3.24)	0.684	0.79 (0.67-0.92)	0.318
<b>AA</b>	34	2.87 (2.31-3.91)		2.33 (1.87-3.42)		0.72 (0.58-0.88)	47.1 (16)
<b>AG/AA</b>	126	2.74 (2.16-3.80)	0.830	2.12 (1.66-3.26)	0.877	0.77 (0.64-0.91)	0.924
<b>MAF</b>	0.42						34.9 (44) 0.830
<b>rs8044334</b>							
<b>TT</b>	35	2.75 (2.24-3.71)		2.27 (1.75-3.22)		0.74 (0.61-0.89)	32.9 (15)
<b>GT</b>	91	2.81 (2.21-3.78)	0.957	2.13 (1.70-3.22)	0.984	0.78 (0.66-0.93)	0.392
<b>GG</b>	63	2.93 (2.05-4.05)		2.18 (1.45-3.50)		0.77 (0.64-0.90)	36.5 (23)
<b>GT/GG</b>	154	2.83 (2.14-3.83)	0.897	2.14 (1.66-3.27)	0.918	0.78 (0.65-0.92)	0.190
<b>MAF</b>	0.43						33.8 (52) 0.310

16

Continuous variables are presented as medians (interquartile ranges), categorical variables are shown as percentages (numbers)

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**Table S3.** Plasma concentrations of provitamin A carotenoids across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

	<b>n</b>	<b><math>\alpha</math>-carotene [<math>\mu\text{mol/L}</math>]</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b><math>\beta</math>-carotene [<math>\mu\text{mol/L}</math>]</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b><math>\beta</math>-cryptoxanthin [<math>\mu\text{mol/L}</math>]</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b>rs6564851</b>							
<b>TT</b>	89	0.56 (0.47-0.75)		1.40 (1.12-1.91)		0.09 (0.06-0.12)	
<b>GT</b>	82	0.69 (0.49-0.94)	0.085	1.88 (1.10-2.42)	0.086	0.10 (0.08-0.12)	0.127
<b>GG</b>	18	0.58 (0.46-0.81)		1.52 (1.19-2.29)		0.11 (0.08-0.14)	
<b>GT/GG</b>	100	0.66 (0.46-0.91)	0.053	1.73 (1.13-2.41)	0.029	0.10 (0.08-0.13)	0.075
<b>MAF</b>	0.31						
<b>rs7500996</b>							
<b>TT</b>	90	0.60 (0.46-0.87)		1.43 (1.12-2.28)		0.09 (0.06-0.12)	
<b>CT</b>	76	0.65 (0.46-0.90)	0.642	1.73 (1.11-2.22)	0.507	0.10 (0.07-0.13)	0.692
<b>CC</b>	23	0.55 (0.49-0.75)		1.37 (1.10-1.63)		0.09 (0.06-0.12)	
<b>CT/CC</b>	99	0.62 (0.47-0.86)	0.664	1.55 (1.10-2.14)	0.620	0.09 (0.07-0.13)	0.755
<b>MAF</b>	0.32						
<b>rs10048138</b>							
<b>GG</b>	71	0.60 (0.46-0.94)		1.55 (1.08-2.29)		0.10 (0.07-0.13)	
<b>AG</b>	92	0.61 (0.46-0.86)	0.795	1.46 (1.10-2.04)	0.577	0.09 (0.07-0.12)	0.567
<b>AA</b>	26	0.64 (0.50-0.83)		1.47 (1.27-2.40)		0.09 (0.06-0.12)	
<b>AG/AA</b>	118	0.61 (0.48-0.86)	0.943	1.46 (1.17-2.07)	0.747	0.09 (0.06-0.12)	0.310
<b>MAF</b>	0.38						

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**Table S3 (continued).** Plasma concentrations of provitamin A carotenoids across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

<b>rs6420424</b>						
<b>GG</b>	63	0.62 (0.46-0.89)		1.50 (1.16-2.28)		0.09 (0.07-0.12) 0.903
<b>AG</b>	92	0.57 (0.46-0.86)	0.694	1.41 (1.09-2.22)	0.670	0.09 (0.07-0.12)
<b>AA</b>	34	0.65 (0.48-0.85)		1.55 (1.19-2.43)		0.10 (0.06-0.14)
<b>AG/AA</b>	126	0.60 (0.47-0.86)	0.897	1.47 (1.10-2.23)	0.866	0.09 (0.07-0.12) 0.951
<b>MAF</b>	0.42					
<b>rs8044334</b>						
<b>TT</b>	35	0.66 (0.46-0.89)		1.55 (1.17-2.06)		0.09 (0.06-0.11)
<b>GT</b>	91	0.61 (0.47-0.86)	0.873	1.47 (1.12-2.22)	0.985	0.10 (0.07-0.12) 0.579
<b>GG</b>	63	0.59 (0.45-0.91)		1.49 (0.98-2.29)		0.09 (0.07-0.15)
<b>GT/GG</b>	154	0.60 (0.46-0.86)	0.610	1.48 (1.09-2.23)	0.926	0.09 (0.07-0.13) 0.374
<b>MAF</b>	0.43					

22

Continuous variables presented as medians (interquartile ranges)

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**Table S4.** Plasma concentrations of non-provitamin A carotenoids across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

	<b>n</b>	<b>lutein [μmol/L]</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b>lycopene [μmol/L]</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b>zeaxanthin [μmol/L]</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b>rs6564851</b>							
<b>TT</b>	89	0.12 (0.09-0.17)	0.469	0.37 (0.25-0.47)	0.753	0.037 (0.027-0.048)	
<b>GT</b>	82	0.13 (0.10-0.17)		0.39 (0.29-0.49)		0.034 (0.026-0.047)	0.665
<b>GG</b>	18	0.12 (0.08-0.20)		0.39 (0.30-0.50)		0.034 (0.027-0.058)	
<b>GT/GG</b>	100	0.13 (0.09-0.17)	0.235	0.39 (0.29-0.49)	0.454	0.034 (0.026-0.049)	0.434
<b>MAF</b>	0.31						
<b>rs7500996</b>							
<b>TT</b>	90	0.13 (0.09-0.17)		0.39 (0.26-0.47)		0.037 (0.027-0.049)	
<b>CT</b>	76	0.13 (0.09-0.18)	0.748	0.36 (0.29-0.47)	0.827	0.035 (0.025-0.049)	0.863
<b>CC</b>	23	0.11 (0.09-0.16)		0.39 (0.29-0.49)		0.036 (0.025-0.043)	
<b>CT/CC</b>	99	0.12 (0.09-0.12)	0.827	0.37 (0.29-0.49)	0.869	0.035 (0.025-0.048)	0.587
<b>MAF</b>	0.32						
<b>rs10048138</b>							
<b>GG</b>	71	0.13 (0.09-0.18)		0.39 (0.30-0.50)		0.036 (0.027-0.052)	
<b>AG</b>	92	0.13 (0.09-0.16)	0.789	0.39 (0.27-0.45)	0.499	0.035 (0.025-0.047)	0.938
<b>AA</b>	26	0.12 (0.10-0.19)		0.36 (0.24-0.47)		0.036 (0.028-0.050)	
<b>AG/AA</b>	118	0.13 (0.09-0.17)	0.619	0.37 (0.25-0.46)	0.299	0.035 (0.026-0.047)	0.878
<b>MAF</b>	0.38						

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**Table S4 (continued).** Plasma concentrations of non-provitamin A carotenoids across genotypes of the variants in the BCO1 gene

<b>rs6420424</b>						
<b>GG</b>	63	0.14 (0.09-0.18)		0.39 (0.26-0.48)		0.037 (0.027-0.055)
<b>AG</b>	92	0.13 (0.09-0.17)	0.803	0.39 (0.29-0.47)	0.875	0.035 (0.025-0.047)
<b>AA</b>	34	0.12 (0.10-0.15)		0.36 (0.24-0.51)		0.036 (0.027-0.053)
<b>AG/AА</b>	126	0.13 (0.09-0.17)	0.517	0.37 (0.28-0.48)	0.895	0.035 (0.027-0.047)
<b>MAF</b>	0.42					0.380
<b>rs8044334</b>						
<b>TT</b>	35	0.12 (0.09-0.15)		0.36 (0.26-0.45)		0.04 (0.03-0.05)
<b>GT</b>	91	0.13 (0.09-0.18)	0.467	0.36 (0.25-0.47)	0.297	0.04 (0.03-0.05)
<b>GG</b>	63	0.11 (0.08-0.18)		0.40 (0.30-0.50)		0.03 (0.02-0.05)
<b>GT/GG</b>	154	0.13 (0.09-0.18)	0.892	0.39 (0.28-0.49)	0.324	0.04 (0.03-0.05)
<b>MAF</b>	0.43					0.918

28

Continuous variables are presented as medians (interquartile ranges)

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