

World Database of Happiness



Correlational Findings on Happiness and PETS Subject Code: P14

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Classification of Findings

<i>Subject Code</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Nr of Studies on this Subject</i>
P14	PETS	0
P14.1	Pets career	0
P14.2	Current pets	3
P14.3	Attitudes to pets	0

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Cite as
 Veenhoven, R.: Findings on PETS
 World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings
 Internet: worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl
 Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2009, Netherlands

Study CUMMI 2003D

Reported in: Cummins, R.A.; Eckersley, R.; Lo, S.K.; Okerstrom, E.; et al
The Wellbeing of Australians- Feeling Connected to Australia. Australian Unity Wellbeing Index, Survey 8, Report 8. The Wellbeing of Australians. Feeling Connected to Australia.
Australian Centre on Quality of Life, 2003, Melbourne, Australia. <http://www.deakin.edu.au/research/acqol/index.htm> <http://acqol.deakin.edu.au>
Page in Report: 127+128+129+130

Population: 18+aged, Australia, 2003

Sample: Probability area sample

Non-Response: 83%

N: 1980

Measured Correlate

Class: Current pets, Code P14.2

Measurement: a: Non Owners
b: Pet Owners

Measured Values: N = a: 796, b: 1193

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Measured Happiness</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>O-SLW/u/sq/n/11/ca</u>	<u>DMt=</u> <u>p<.304</u>	a Mt = 78,46; SD = 17,34 b Mt = 77,65; SD = 16,70
<u>M-AC/g/sq/n/11/a</u>	<u>DMt=</u> <u>p<.449</u>	a Mt = 77,11; SD = 16,00 b Mt = 76,57; SD = 14,87
<u>M-FH/g/sq/n/11/b</u>	<u>DMt=</u> <u>p<.257</u>	a Mt = 79,11; SD = 15,43 b Mt = 78,32; SD = 14,50

O-SLW/u/sq/n/11/DMt=

Pet

No pet

ca

male	M = 77,07;	M = 76,70
female	M = 78,14;	M = 80,53
age 18-25	M = 76,11;	M = 78,06
age 26-35	M = 76,74;	M = 77,71
age 36-45	M = 76,89;	M = 75,40
age 46-55	M = 76,11;	M = 73,10
age 56-65	M = 78,08;	M = 78,77
age 65-75	M = 82,55;	M = 82,58
age 76+	M = 86,13;	M = 84,15

Study CUMMI 2004B

Reported in: Cummins, R.A.; Eckersley, R.; Lo, S.K.; Okerstrom, E.; et al
 Australian Unity Wellbeing Index, Survey 9, Report 9. The Wellbeing of Australians.
 Effects of Household Debt.
 Australian Centre on Quality of Life, 2004, Melbourne, Australia. <http://www.deakin.edu.au/research/acqol/index.htm>
 Page in Report: 150+151+152+154

Population: 18+ aged, Australia, 2003

Sample: Probability area sample

Non-Response: 88%

N: 1897

Measured Correlate

Class: Current pets, Code P14.2

Measurement: Do you have an animal as a pet?
 a: Pet Owner
 b: Non-Owners

Measured Values: N = a: 2295, b: 1579

Remarks: Data survey 8+9

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Measured Happiness</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>O-SLW/c/sq/n/11/c</u>	<u>DMt=+</u> <u>p<.337</u>	a Mt = 7,76; SD = 1,67 b Mt = 7,81; SD = 1,72

O-SLW/c/sq/n/11/cDMt=

	Pet Owner	Non-Owners
Income		
<\$15000	Mt=7,00;SD=2,07;	Mt=7,80;SD=2,07
\$15000-\$30000	Mt=7,55;SD=1,94;	Mt=7,56;SD=1,99
\$31000-\$60000	Mt=7,73;SD=1,64;	Mt=7,80;SD=1,50
\$61000-\$90000	Mt=7,82;SD=7,68;	Mt=7,68;SD=1,59
\$91000-\$120000	Mt=8,19;SD=1,14;	Mt=8,10;SD=1,26
\$121000-\$150000	Mt=8,12;SD=1,01;	Mt=8,42;SD=9,00
>\$150000	Mt=8,37;SD=1,24;	Mt=7,74;SD=2,20

Study TAYLO 2006

Reported in: Taylor, P.; Funk, C.; Craighill, P.
 Are We Happy Yet?
 PEW Research Center, A Social Trends Report, 2006, Washington DC, USA <http://pewresearch.org/assets/social/pdf/AreWeHappy/Yet.pdf>
 Page in Report: 9, 30

Population: Adults, general public, USA, 2005

Sample: Probability simple random sample

Non-Response:

N: 3014

Measured Correlate

Class: Current pets, Code P14.2

Measurement: 0. No Pet
 1. Pet
 a. owns dog
 b. owns cat

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Measured Happiness</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/ca</u>	<u>D%=0</u>	% Very Happy
	<u>ns</u>	-No Pet 33%
		-Pet 35%
		-Dog owner 35%
		-Cat owner 36%

Appendix 1: Happiness Items used

<i>Happiness Item Code</i>	<i>Full Text</i>
M-AC/g/sq/n/11/a	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>Now I am going to ask you how you FEEL, not just at the moment, but GENERALLY in your life. How content do you generally feel? On a scale from 0 to 10...</p> <p>0 completely discontented</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 neutral</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 completely content</p>
M-FH/g/sq/n/11/b	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>Now I am going to ask you how you FEEL, not just at the moment, but GENERALLY in your life. How happy do you generally feel? On a scale from 0 to 10...</p> <p>0 completely unhappy</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 neutral</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 completely happy</p>
O-HL/c/sq/v/3/ca	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>Generally speaking; how would you say, you are these days.....?</p> <p>1 very happy</p> <p>2 pretty happy</p> <p>3 not too happy</p>

O-SLW/c/sq/n/11/c Selfreport on single question:

'Taking all things together, how satisfied are you with your life these days? Please answer with the help of this scale. For instance, when you are totally satisfied with your life, please tick '10'. When you are totally unsatisfied with your life, please tick '0'. You may use all values in between to indicate that you are neither totally satisfied nor totally unsatisfied.'

10 totally satisfied

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

0 totally unsatisfied

O-SLW/u/sq/n/11/
ca Selfreport on single question:

Thinking about your own life and personal circumstances, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole?

1 very dissatisfied

2

3

4

5 neutral

6

7

8

9

10 very satisfied

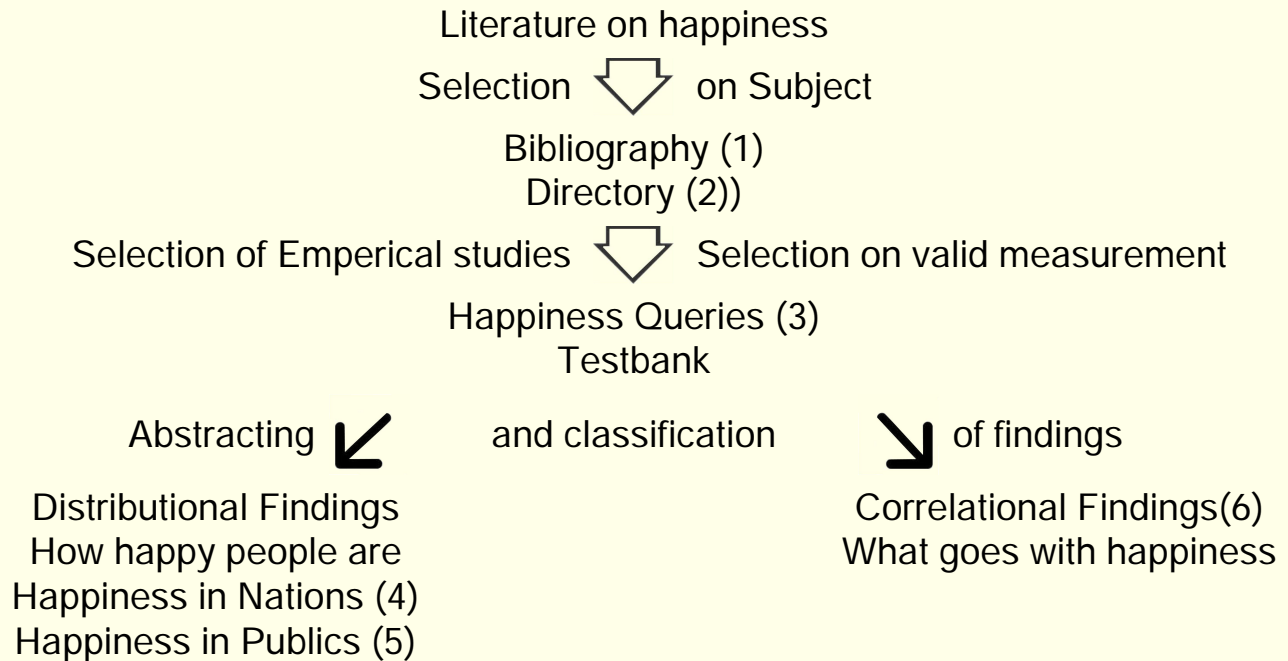
First item in Cummins' 'Personal Well-being Scale' (labels used until 2005)

Appendix 2: Statistics used

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
D%	<p>DIFFERENCE in PERCENTAGES Type: descriptive statistic only. Measurement level: Correlate level: dichotomous, but nominal or ordinal theoretically possible as well. Happiness level: dichotomous Range: [-100; +100]</p> <p>Meaning: the difference of the percentages happy people at two correlate levels.</p>
DMt	<p>DIFFERENCE of MEANS AFTER TRANSFORMATION Type: descriptive statistic only. Measurement level: Correlate: dichotomous, Happiness: metric Theoretical range: [-10; +10]</p> <p>Meaning: the difference of the mean happiness (happiness measured at a 0-10 rating scale) between the two correlate levels.</p>

Appendix 3: About the World Database of Happiness

The World Database of Happiness is an ongoing register of scientific research on subjective appreciation of life. It brings together findings that are scattered throughout many studies and provides a basis for synthetic analysis. The research literature is processed as follows:



- 1 **BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HAPPINESS** Presents all contemporary scientific publications. Detailed subject-classification. Current contents: 4270 titles, mainly in English.
- 2 **DIRECTORY OF INVESTIGATORS** Names and addresses of most authors on the subject. Enumerates years of publication. Current contents: 5818 names and 3073 addresses. Part of Bibliography.
- 3 **CATALOG OF HAPPINESS ITEMS (testbank)**. Presents all indicators that tap happiness as defined here. Current content: 522 measures, mostly single questions. Items are classified by focus, time reference, mode of observation, rating and wording.
- 4 **CATALOG OF HAPPINESS IN NATIONS** Presents distributional research findings, in particular responses to questions on happiness in national survey studies. Allows comparison across time and nations. Current content: 2605 surveys in 112 nations, 1946-2004.

- 5 CATALOG OF HAPPINESS IN PUBLICS Distributional findings on happiness in special publics within nations, such as aged people. Current contents: 837 studies. Part of Catalog of Correlational Findings.
- 6 CATALOG OF CORRELATIONAL FINDINGS Presents abstracts of correlational research findings. Detailed subject-classification. Allows comparison through time and across nations. Current contents: 9098 findings from 837 studies in 140 nations, 1911-2004.

Appendix 4 Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness

<i>Main Subjects</i>	<i>Subject Description</i>	<i>Number of Studies</i>
A1	ACTIVITY LEVEL (how much one does)	58
A2	ACTIVITY PATTERN (what one does)	32
A3	AFFECTIVE LIFE	47
A4	AGE	398
A5	AGGRESSION	12
A6	ANOMY	26
A7	APPEARANCE (good looks)	15
A8	ATTITUDES	6
A9	AUTHORITARIANISM	4
B1	BIRTH CONTROL	1
B2	BIRTH HISTORY (own birth)	201
B3	BODY	77
COMMUNITY	New Top Subject	0
C1	CHILDREN a	1
C2	CHILDREN b: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	6
C3	CHILDREN c: HAVING (parental status)	194
C4	CHILDREN d: CHARACTERISTICS	25
C5	CHILDREN e: RELATION WITH	8
C6	CHILDREN f: REARING (parental behavior)	26
C7	COMMUNAL LIVING	9
C8	CONCERNS	18
C9	COPING	43
C10	CREATIVENESS	5
C11	CULTURE (Arts and Sciences)	8
D1	DAILY JOYS & HASSLES	5

E1	EDUCATION	299
E2	EMPLOYMENT	364
E3	ETHNICITY	95
E4	EXPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR	12
F1	FAMILY OF ORIGIN (earlier family for adults, current for young)	236
F2	FAMILY OF PROCREATION	58
F3	FAMILY OF RELATIVES	157
F4	FARMING	25
F5	FREEDOM	32
F6	FRIENDSHIP	151
G1	GENDER	367
G2	GRIEF	1
HEALTH	New Top Subject	0
H1	HABITS	1
H2	HANDICAP	25
H3	HAPPINESS b: ATTITUDES TO	49
H4	HAPPINESS c: DISPERSION OF	10
H5	HAPPINESS: CAREER	191
H6	HAPPINESS e: CURRENT LEVEL	310
H7	HAPPINESS f: OF OTHERS	0
H8	HAPPINESS g: REPUTATION OF	19
H9	HEALTH-BEHAVIOR	23
H10	HELPING	5
H11	HOPE	7
H12	HOUSEHOLD: COMPOSITION	136
H13	HOUSEHOLD: WORK	32
H14	HOUSING	104
I1	INCOME	551
I2	INSTITUTIONAL LIVING	43
I3	INTELLIGENCE	69
I4	INTERESTS	8
I5	INTERVIEW	72
I6	INTIMACY	102
L1	LANGUAGE	2
L2	LEADERSHIP	8
L3	LEISURE	205
L4	LIFE APPRAISALS: OTHER THAN HAPPINESS	368
L5	LIFE CHANGE	35
L6	LIFE EVENTS	85

L7	LIFE GOALS	75
L8	LIFE HISTORY	2
L9	LIFE STYLE	20
L10	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	372
L11	LOTTERY	8
L12	LOVE-LIFE	31
M1	MARRIAGE b: MARITAL STATUS CAREER	65
M2	MARRIAGE c: Current Marital Status	541
M3	MARRIAGE: RELATIONSHIP	115
M4	MARRIAGE e: PARTNER	46
M5	MEANING	22
M6	MEDICAL TREATMENT	81
M7	MENTAL HEALTH	198
M8	MIGRATION b: OTHER COUNTRY	24
M9	MIGRATION c: MOVING WITHIN COUNTRY (residential mobility)	17
M10	MIGRATION d: MIGRANT WORK	3
M11	MILITARY LIFE	7
M12	MODERNITY	6
M13	MOOD	246
M14	MOTIVATION	7
NATURE	New Top Subject	0
N1	NATION: NATIONALITY	27
N2	NATION: ERA (temporal period)	41
N3	NATION d: NATIONAL CHARACTER (modal personality)	28
N4	NATION e: CONDITION OF	406
N5	NATION f: POSITION OF	1
N6	NATION g: ATTITUDES TO	150
N7	NATION h: LIVABILITY OF	17
N8	NATION i: ATTITUDES IN	1
N9	REGION IN NATION	56
N10	NUTRITION	21
N21	ERA	0
O1	OCCUPATION	177
O2	ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION	17
P1	PERSONALITY b: HISTORY	48
P2	PERSONALITY c: CHANGE	10
P3	PERSONALITY d: CURRENT ORGANIZATION	7
P4	PERSONALITY e: CURRENT TRAITS	459
P5	PERSONALITY f: LATER	23

P6	PHYSICAL HEALTH	427
P7	PLANNING	10
P8	POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR	231
P9	POPULARITY	24
P10	POSSESSIONS	59
P11	PRISON	1
P12	PROBLEMS	25
P13	PSYCHO-SOMATIC COMPLAINTS	62
P14	PETS	3
RECREATION	New Top Subject	0
R1	RELIGION	251
R2	RESOURCES	7
R3	RETIREMENT	89
R4	ROLES	23
S1	SCHOOL	128
S2	SELF-IMAGE	236
S3	SEX-LIFE	60
S4	SLEEP	16
S5	SOCIAL MOBILITY	17
S6	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION a: PERSONAL CONTACTS	68
S7	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION b: VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS	129
S8	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION c: TOTAL (personal + associations)	33
S9	SOCIAL STATUS (Socio-Economic Status)	154
S10	SOCIAL SUPPORT a: RECEIVED	60
S11	SOCIAL SUPPORT b: PROVIDED	6
S12	SPORTS	38
S13	STIMULANTS	49
S14	SUICIDE	8
S15	SUMMED EFFECTS ON HAPPINESS	92
T1	TIME	51
T2	THERAPY	21
T3	TOLERANCE	37
V1	VALUES b: CAREER	8
V2	VALUES c: CURRENT PREFERENCES (own)	73
V3	VALUES d: CLIMATE (current values in environment)	7
V4	VALUES e: SIMILARITY (current fit with others)	12
V5	VICTIM	14
W1	WAR	5
W2	WISDOM	2

W3	WORK b: CAREER	2
W4	WORK c: CONDITIONS	68
W5	WORK d: ATTITUDES	347
W6	WORK e: PERFORMANCE (current)	28
W7	WORRIES	31
XX	UNCLASSIFIED	25

Appendix 5: Related Subjects

<i>Subject</i>		<i>Related Subject(s)</i>
P14.3	Attitudes to pets	I6 INTIMACY
P14.3	Attitudes to pets	L9 LIFE STYLE

A report of the World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings