

World Database of Happiness



Correlational Findings on Happiness and WAR Subject Code: W1

© on data collection: [Ruut Veenhoven](#), [Erasmus University Rotterdam](#)

Classification of Findings

<i>Subject Code</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Nr of Studies on this Subject</i>
W1	WAR	0
W1.1	War-involvement career	0
W1.1.1	Earlier involvement with war	2
W1.1.2	Change in involvement with war	1
W1.1.4	Later involvement with war	0
W1.2	Current involvement with war	0
W1.2.1	Involved in warfare	0
W1.2.2	Victim of warfare	0
W1.3	Attitudes to war	2
W1.3.1	Attitudes to own involvement in war	0
W1.3.2	Attitudes to war in general	0

Appendix 1	Happiness Items used
Appendix 2	Statistics used
Appendix 3	About the World Database of Happiness
Appendix 4	Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness
Appendix 5	Related Subjects

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

Study **ANTON 1971**

Reported in: Antonowssky, A.; Maoz, B.; Dowty, N.; Wijssenbeek, H.
 Twenty-Five Years Later: A Limited Study of Sequelae of the Concentration Camp Experience.
 Social Psychiatry, 1971, Vol. 6, 186 -193. ISSN 0037 7813 DOI:10.1007/BF00578367
 Page in Report: 188

Population: Females, born between 1914-1923 in Central Europe, Israel 1968

Sample:

Non-Response: 52%: 24% unattainable, 29% incomplete; unaffected by age

N: 287

Measured Correlate

Class: Earlier involvement with war, Code W1.1.1

Measurement: Stayed in nazi concentration camp during World War II
 1 yes
 0 no

Observed Relation with Happiness

*Measured
 Happiness*

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

C-BW/c/sq//11/a

G=-.36
p<.01

Concentration camp experience: Mt=5.6
 No concentration camp experience: Mt=6.5

Study LEON 1981

Reported in: Leon, G.R; Butcher, J.N.; Kleinman, M.; Goldberg, A. Almagor M. Survivors of the Holocaust and their Children: Current Status and Adjustment. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 1981, Vol. 41, 503 - 516. ISSN 00222 3514
Page in Report: 511-512

Population: European born Jews, Survivors of WW II and controls, USA, 1978

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 81

Measured Correlate

Class: Earlier involvement with war, Code W1.1.1

Measurement: 0 emigrated before WW II, not prosecuted
1 emigrated after WW II, during WW II in concentration camp or in hiding

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Measured Happiness</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>		
<u>M-CO/u/sq/v/2/a</u>	<u>G=-.77</u>	males	G' = - .24	(05)
	<u>p<.01</u>	females	G' = -1.00	(01)
<u>M-CO/u/sq/v/2/a</u>	<u>tb=-.24</u>	males	_b' = - .06	ns
	<u>p<.01</u>	females	_b' = - .31	(01)

Study **BRADB 1965/2**

Reported in: Bradburn, N.M.; Caplovitz, D.
 Reports on Happiness. A Pilot Study of Behavior Related to Mental Health.
 Aldine Publishing Company, 1965, Chicago, USA
 Page in Report: 82-85

Population: Adult, general public, 2 towns, prosperous and depressed, Illinois, USA, 1962/3 - 1962/10

Sample:

Non-Response: ?

N: 547

Measured Correlate

Class: Change in involvement with war, Code W1.1.2

Measurement: Re-interview during Cuban missile crisis in October 1962 (T2).
 This crisis involved a political confrontation between the USA and the USSR and might have resulted in a (nuclear) war.
 Happiness assessed at T1 and T2.

Observed Relation with Happiness

*Measured
 Happiness*

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa

G=+.13
p<.05

T1 happiness by T2 happiness.
 Most Ss got slightly happier.
 Unaffected by worrying about the crisis.

A-BB/cw/mq/v/4/e

G= -

Index of Positive Affects only: G' = -.23 (01)
 Stronger among Ss who were worrying about the crisis.
 No relationship with the Index of Negative Affects.

Study CANTR 1965/1

Reported in: Cantril, H.
The Pattern of Human Concern.
Rutgers University Press, 1965, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA
Page in Report: 264

Population: Adults, general public, 14 countries ±1960

Sample:

Non-Response: -

N: 18653

Measured Correlate

Class: Attitudes to war, Code W1.3

Measurement: Item mentioned in open-ended question on fears and worries for one's personal future and/or for the future of one's country.

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Measured Happiness</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>DM= +</u> <u>ns</u>	Fear of war: Mt = 5.1 No fear : Mt = 4.8

Study **BRADB 1965/1**

Reported in: Bradburn, N.M.; Caplovitz D.
 Reports on Happiness. A Pilot Study of Behavior Related to Mental Health.
 Aldine Publishing Company, 1965, Chicago, USA
 Page in Report: 54

Population: Adult, general public, 4 towns, varying in economic prosperity, Illinois, USA, 1962

Sample:

Non-Response: -

N: 2006

Measured Correlate

Class: Attitudes to war, Code W1.3

Measurement: Response to single question:
 "Last week how often did you think about Atom bomb or
 fallout"

Rated: not at all / sometimes / often

Observed Relation with Happiness

*Measured
 Happiness*

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa

G= -

High S.E.S. : G = -.04 (ns)

Low S.E.S. : G = -.26 (05)

Appendix 1: Happiness Items used

*Happiness Item
Code*

Full Text

A-BB/cw/mq/v/4/e

Selfreport on 9 questions:

We are interested in the way people are feeling these days. The following list describes some of the ways people feel at different times. Please indicate how often you felt each way during the last week.

How often last week did you feel

A On the top of the world

B Very lonely or remote from other people

C Particularly excited or interested in something

D Depressed or very unhappy

E Pleased about having accomplished something

F Bored

G Proud because someone complimented you on something you had done

H So restless you couldn't sit long in a chair

I Vaguely uneasy about something without knowing why

Answer options:

0 not at all

1 once

2 several times

3 often

Summation:

Positive Affect Score (PAS): summed scores on A, C, E, G

Negative Affect Score (NAS): summed scores on B, D, F, H, I

Affect Balance Score (ABS): PAS minus NAS

Possible range: -15 tot +12

Name: Bradburn's 'Affect Balance Scale' (modified version)

C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a

Selfreport on single question:

"Here is a picture of a ladder. Suppose we say that the top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you and the bottom represents the worst possible life for you. Where on the ladder do you feel you personally stand at the present time?"

[10] best possible life

[9]

[8]

[7]

[6]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[0] worst possible life

Preceded by 1) open questions about what the respondent imagines as the best possible life and the worst possible life. 2) ratings on the ladder of one's life five years ago and where on the ladder one expects to stand five years from now.

Name: Cantril's self anchoring ladder rating of life (original)

M-CO/u/sq/v/2/a

Selfreport on single question:

I am happy with my accomplishments in life

2 yes

1 no

O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa

Selfreport on single question:

Taken all together, how would you say things are these days? Would you say that you are....?

3 very happy

2 pretty happy

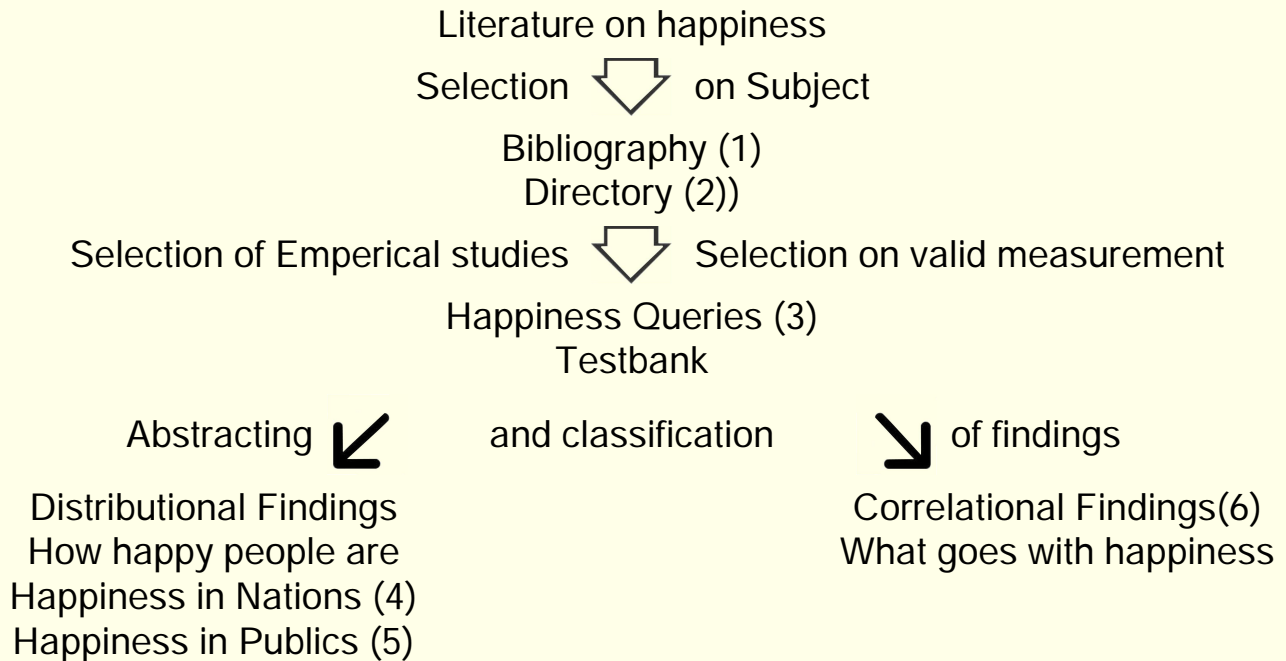
1 not too happy

Appendix 2: Statistics used

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
DM	<p>DIFFERENCE of MEANS Type: descriptive statistic only. Measurement level: Correlate: dichotomous, Happiness: metric Range: depending on the happiness rating scale of the author; range symmetric about zero.</p> <p>Meaning: the difference of the mean happiness, as measured on the author's rating scale, between the two correlate levels.</p>
G	<p>GOODMAN & Kruskal's GAMMA Type: test statistic Measurement level: Correlate: ordinal, Happiness: ordinal Range: [-1; +1]</p> <p>Meaning: G = 0 « no rank correlation G = +1 « strongest possible rank correlation, where high correlate values correspond with high happiness ratings. G = -1 « strongest possible rank correlation, where high correlate values correspond with low happiness ratings.</p>
tb	<p>KENDALL'S RANK CORRELATION COEFFICIENT TAU-B Type: test statistic Measurement level: Correlate: ordinal, Happiness: ordinal Range: [-1; +1]</p> <p>Meaning: tb = 0 « no rank correlation tb = 1 « perfect rank correlation, where high values of the correlate correspond with high happiness ratings. tb = -1 « perfect rank correlation, where high values of the correlate correspond with low happiness ratings.</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>
W1 WAR	N4.6.4 Civil war
W1 WAR	N4.6.5 Political role of armed forces
W1 WAR	N5.2 Involved in international conflict
W1.2.1 Involved in warfare	M11 MILITARY LIFE
W1.2.2 Victim of warfare	V5 VICTIM
W1.3 Attitudes to war	N6.9.2 Willingness to fight for country
W1.3.1 Attitudes to own involvement in war	V5.3.2 Acceptance of victimization
W1.3.2 Attitudes to war in general	V2.2.1.2 . preference for peaceful solution of political problems

A report of the World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings