World Database of Happiness

Correlational Findings on Happiness and WISDOM
Subject Code: W2

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Classification of Findings

Subject Code	Description	Nr of Studies on this Subject
W2	WISDOM	0
W2.1	Wisdom career	0
W2.2	Current wisdom	2
W2.3	Attitudes to wisdom	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 WISDOM
World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings
Internet: worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl
Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2009, Netherlands

Study ARDEL 2003

Reported in: Ardelt, M.
Empirical Assessment of a Three-Dimensional Wisdom Scale.
Research on Aging, 2003, Vol. 25, 275 - 324 ISSN 0164 0275
Page in Report: 306

Population: +55 aged, USA, North-Central Florida, 1997

Sample: Non-probability snowball sample

Non-Response: drop out 30%

N: 174

Measured Correlate

Class: Current wisdom, Code W2.2

Measurement:
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Three Dimensional Wisdom Scale
- cognitive: 14 items to measure understanding of life or
the desire to know the truth.
- reflective:12 items to measure the ability to look at
phenomena and events from different perspectives and to
avoid subjectivity and projectios
- affective: 13 items to measure the presence of positive
emotions and behavior toward others

Items rated on 5 step scales
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Remarks:
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Cronbach's alpha:
T1: cognitive=.78, reflective=.75, affective=.74
T2: cognitive=.85, reflective=.71, affective=.72
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Observed Relation with Happiness

Measured Happiness	Statistics	Elaboration/Remarks
A-AOL/cm/mq/*/5/a	r=+.45 p<.05	Three dimensional wisdom scale

Study   ATKIN 1979/1

Reported in: Atkinson,T.H
Trends in life satisfaction among Canadians 1968-1977
Institute for Research on Public Policy, Occasional paper nr7, Montreal (Quebec), 1979
Page in Report:

Population: 18+ aged, Canada, 1968

Sample: Probability sample (unspecified)

Non-Response: ?

N: 2734

Measured Correlate

Class: Current wisdom, Code W2.2

Measurement:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Measured Happiness	Statistics	Elaboration/Remarks

Appendix 1: Happiness Items used

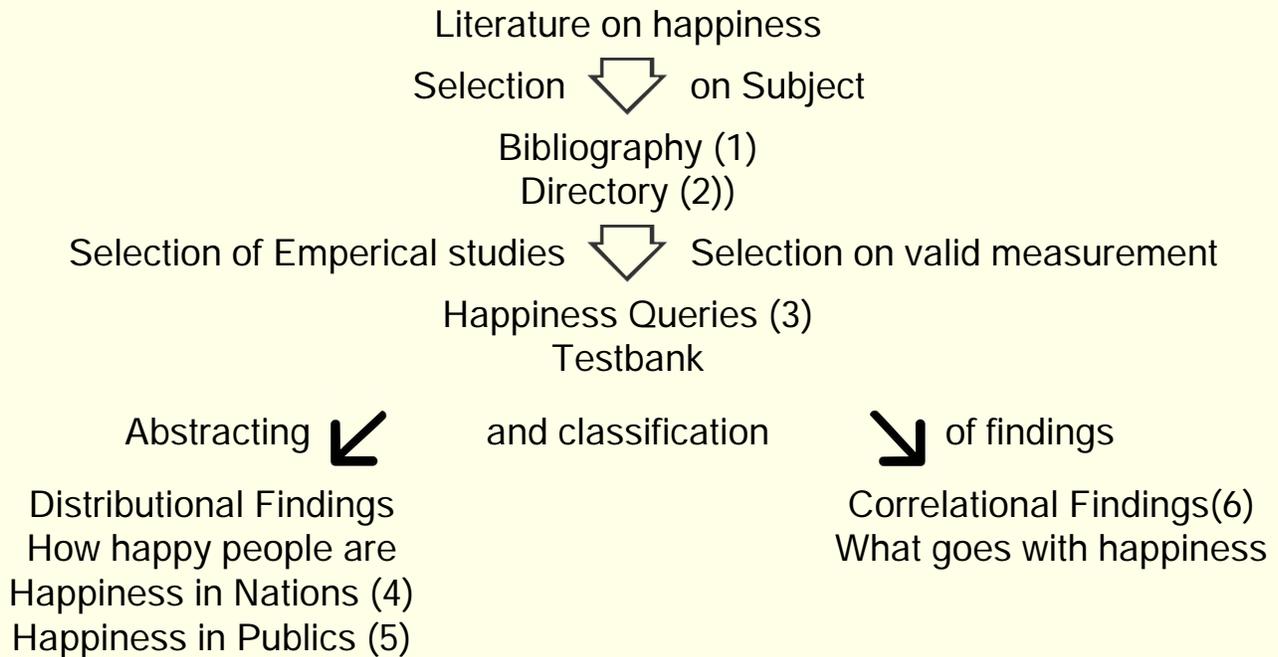| Happiness Item Code	Full Text
A-AOL/cm/mq/*/5/a	Selfreport on four questions:

How have you felt during the past month?

A How have you been feeling in general?
6 in excellent spirits
5 in very good spirits
4 in good spirits mostly
3 my spirits have been up and down
2 in low spirits mostly
1 in very low spirits
B Have you felt so sad, discouraged, hopeless or had so
many problems that you wondered if anything was worthwhile?
1 extremely so, to the point of just about given up
2 very much so
3 quite a bit
4 some, enough to bother me
5 a little bit
6 not at all
C Have you felt downhearted or blue
1 all the time
2 most of the time
3 a good bit of the time
4 some of the time
5 al title of the time
6 none of the time
D How depressed or cheerful have you been?
0 very depressed
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 very cheerful

Appendix 2: Statistics used

Symbol	Explanation
r	PRODUCT-MOMENT CORRELATION COEFFICIENT (Also "Pearson's correlation coefficient' or simply 'correlation coefficient')

Type: test statistic.
Measurement level: Correlate: metric, Happiness: metric
Range: [-1; +1]

Meaning:
r = 0 « no correlation ,
r = 1 « perfect correlation, where high correlate values correspond with high happiness values, and
r = -1 « perfect correlation, where high correlate values correspond with low happiness values.

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:

Literature on happiness

Selection ▽ on Subject

Bibliography (1)
Directory (2))

Selection of Emperical studies ▽ Selection on valid measurement

Happiness Queries (3)
Testbank

Abstracting ↙ and classification ↘ of findings

Distributional Findings   Correlational Findings(6)
How happy people are   What goes with happiness
Happiness in Nations (4)
Happiness in Publics (5)

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

Main Subjects	Subject Description	Number of Studies
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

Appendix 5: Related Subjects

Subject		Related Subject(s)	
W2	WISDOM	I3	INTELLIGENCE
W2	WISDOM	M7.4	Current positive mental health
W2	WISDOM	P3.2	Personality integration

A report of the World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings