

World Database of Happiness



Correlational Findings on Happiness and ATTITUDES Subject Code: A8

© 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>
A8	ATTITUDES	0
A8.1	Attitudinal career	0
A8.1.1	Earlier attitudes	1
A8.1.2	Change in attitudes	0
A8.1.4	Later attitudes	0
A8.2	Current attitudes	0
A8.3	Own attitudinal organization	0
A8.3.1	Attitudinal rigidity	1
A8.3.2	Attitudinal consistency	2
A8.3.3	Attitudinal stability	0
A8.3.4	Attitudinal consonance	0
A8.4	Attitudinal climate (attitudes of others)	0
A8.4.1	climate of attitudes to the nation	0
A8.4.2	climate of attitudes to work	2
A8.5	Attitude to attitudinal climate	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 ATTITUDES
World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings
Internet: worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl
Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2009, Netherlands

Correlational finding on Happiness and Earlier attitudes

Subject code: A8.1.1

Study SEARS 1977A

Reported in: Sears, P.S.; Barbee, A.H.
 Career and Life Satisfaction among Terman Gifted Women.
 Stanley, J.C.; George, W.C.; Eds.: "The Gifted and the Creative", J. Hopkins University
 Press, 1977, Baltimore, USA, 28 - 72
 Page in Report: 40-62/4

Population: "Gifted women" (IQ >135), followed 50 years, California, USA, 1921-72

Sample: Non-probability purposive sample

Non-Response: Attrition in 1972: 25%

N: 671

Correlate

Authors label: Wish to be a man (2)

Our classification: Earlier attitudes, code A8.1.1

Measurement: Single direct question: "Ever wished to be a member of the
 opposite sex?"

Assessed in 1940

Observed Relation with Happiness

*Happiness
 Measure*

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

C-ASG/h/mq/v/5/a

AoV= ns Earlier wish (1940) by present happiness (1972).

M-PL/h/sq/v/5/b

Chi²= ns

Correlational finding on Happiness and Attitudinal rigidity

Subject code: A8.3.1

Study CLEME 1980/3

Reported in: Clement, F.J.
 De la Variation de Quelques Traits de Personnalité en Fonction, notamment, de l'Age, du Sexe et du Niveau Intellectuel. (The Variation of Certain Personality Traits in Relation to Age, Sex, and Intelligent Level).
 Psychologie Francaise, 1980, Vol. 25, 95 - 113
 Page in Report: 102

Population: Adult women, France, 1975

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 1893

Correlate

Authors label: Rigidity in attitudes. (1)

Our classification: Attitudinal rigidity, code A8.3.1

Measurement: Factor derived from responses on Heron (1967) personality inventory. (Most items in this inventory drawn from MMPI, Cattell 16 PF, Wesley rigidity scale and ISIA).

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
M-FH/u/sq/ol/9/a	r=-.03 ns	
O-HL/u/sq/ol/9/a	r=-.03 ns	
O-SP/u/sq/ol/9/a	r=-.03 ns	

Correlational finding on Happiness and Attitudinal consistency
 Subject code: A8.3.2

Study HARRY 1976

Reported in: Harry, J.

Evolving sources of happiness for men over the life cycle: A structural analysis
Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol 38, 1976, 289-296
Page in Report: 292

Population: 18+ aged males, living with family, USA, 1973

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 374

Correlate

Authors label: Institutional malintegration (2)

Our classification: Attitudinal consistency, code A8.3.2

Measurement: Degree to which Ss is more satisfied with his job than with his family. Both satisfactions assessed by a single direct question

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.17</u> <u>ns</u>	Single
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.25</u> <u>ns</u>	Married, no children
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.35</u> <u>ns</u>	Married, pre-school children
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.27</u> <u>p<.05</u>	Married, schoolage children
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.27</u> <u>ns</u>	Married, teenage children
<u>O-HL/c/sq/v/3/aa</u>	<u>r=+.25</u> <u>p<.05</u>	Married, children grown up

Correlational finding on Happiness and Attitudinal consistency

Subject code: A8.3.2

Study LOUNS 1979

Reported in: Lounsbury, J.W.; Sundstrom, E.; Shields, M.
The Relationship of Avowed Life Satisfaction to Public Acceptance of and Expectations about a Nuclear Power Plant.
Journal of Community Psychology, 1979, Vol 7, 298 -304
Page in Report: 302

Population: Adults, general public, Hartsville/Trousdale County, Tennessee, USA, 1975

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 288

Correlate

Authors label: Consistency of attitude to nuclear plant in town (3)

Our classification: Attitudinal consistency, code A8.3.2

Measurement: Correlation between acceptance of the building of a nuclear plant and perceptions of hazards and benefits.

1. acceptance - disruption
2. acceptance - health hazards
3. acceptance - increased business
4. acceptance - attention for town
5. acceptance - economic benefit

Remarks: correlation of acceptance and perceived consequences among:
happy unhappy

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
--------------------------	-------------------	----------------------------

<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>r=</u>	r=+.47	r=+.49	difference ns
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>r=</u>	r=+.62	r=+.60	difference ns
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>r=</u>	r=+.34	r=+.10	difference significant (p<05)
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>r=</u>	r=+.34	r=+.12	difference significant (p<05)
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>r=</u>	r=+.45	r=+.40	difference ns
<u>C-BW/c/sq/l/11/a</u>	<u>mr=</u>	mr=+.44	mr=+.34	difference ns

Correlational finding on Happiness and climate of attitudes to work

Subject code: A8.4.2

Study VLIER 2002A

Reported in: VandeVliert, E.; Janssen, O.
 Competitive Societies are Less Competitive if the Women are Less Competitive than the Men.
 Cross-Cultural Research, 2002, Vol. 36, 321 - 337 ISSN 1069 3971.
 DOI:10.1177/106939702237305 DOI: 10.1177/106939702237305
 Page in Report: 328

Population: General public and students, in 42 nations, 1986

Sample: Non-probability chunk sample

Non-Response:

N: 42

Correlate

Authors label: Job satisfaction

Our classification: climate of attitudes to work, code A8.4.2

Measurement: Self report on single question:
Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your job?
Assessed on a 10 point scale from 1=dissatisfied to 10=satisfied

Remarks: Data: International Survey Research
The original dataset covered 33 nations of which 28 overlapped this sample. 8 missing values were removed by assigning the average score of the other countries in its geographical or linguistic so that data were available for 36 nations, but not for the 5 arab countries and israel.

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
<u>O-Sum*/sq/nt/11/a</u>	<u>r=+.68</u> <u>p<.001</u>	Average happiness by average job-satisfaction in 36 nations

Correlational finding on Happiness and climate of attitudes to work Subject code: A8.4.2

Study **VLIER 2002A**

Reported in: VandeVliert, E.; Janssen, O.
Competitive Societies are Less Competitive if the Women are Less Competitive than the Men.
Cross-Cultural Research, 2002, Vol. 36, 321 - 337 ISSN 1069 3971.
DOI:10.1177/106939702237305 DOI: 10.1177/106939702237305
Page in Report: 328

Population: General public and students, in 42 nations, 1986

Sample: Non-probability chunk sample

Non-Response:

N: 42

Correlate

Authors label: Company satisfaction

Our classification: climate of attitudes to work, code A8.4.2

Measurement: Five item company satisfaction index, illustrative items:
 - I would recommend my company as a good place to work
 - Taking everything into account, how satisfied are you with your company as an employer?

Assessed on a 4 point scale from 1 = disagree to 4 = agree

Remarks: Data: International Survey Research
 The original dataset covered 33 nations of which 28 overlapped this sample. 8 missing values were removed by assigning the average score of the other countries in its geographical or linguistic so that data were available for 36 nations, but not for the 5 arab countries and israel.

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Measure

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

O-Sum*/sq/nt/11/a

r=+.52
p<.001

Average happiness by average company-satisfaction in 36 nations

Appendix 1: Happiness Items used

Happiness Item Code

Full Text

C-ASG/h/mq/v/5/a Selfreport on 2 questions:

A. "How important was each of the following goals in life in the plans you made for yourself in early adulthood?"

- occupational success
- family life
- friendships
- richness of cultural life
- total service to society.

1 less important to me than to most people

2

3

4

5 of prime importance to me

B. "How successful have you been in the pursuit of these goals?"

1 little satisfaction in this area

2

3

4

5 had excellent fortune in this respect

Computation: General Satisfaction 5 is the quotient obtained by multiplying the planned goal (early adulthood) by the reported success in attaining that goal, adding the five of these multiplied areas and dividing them by the sum of the planned goals for each of the areas.

$Pa.Sa + Pb.Sb + Pc.Sc + Pd.Sd + Pe.Se$

$Pa + Pb + Pc + Pd + Pe$

Pa = planned goal a (1-5)

Sa = success goal a (1-5)

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-FH/u/sq/ol/9/a

Selfreport on single question:

Place a cross on the line on the place you estimate to be what corresponds best with your state.

1 | I don't feel very well in my skin
2 |
3 |
4 |
5 | I don't feel too well in my skin
6 |
7 |
8 |
9 | I feel very well in my skin

Scoring: rated on open horizontal line scale divided afterwards in 9 sections.

M-PL/h/sq/v/5/b

Selfreport on single question: following enumeration of lifegoals in six areas, the last of which was 'joy in living'

" How successful have you been in pursuit of that goal.....?"

(joy in living)

5 had excellent fortune in this respect

4

3

2

1 found little satisfaction in this area

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

O-HL/u/sq/ol/9/a

Selfreport on single question:

Place a cross, on each line, on the place you estimate to be that which corresponds best with your state

1 | I am not very happy

2 |

3 |

4 |

5 | I am not too happy

6 |

7 |

8 |

9 | I am quite happy

Scoring: rated on an open horizontal line scale, divided afterwards in 9 sections.

O-SP/u/sq/ol/9/a

Selfreport on single question:

Place a cross on the line below, on the spot you estimate that corresponds best with your state.

1 | I am not very satisfied

2 |

3 |

4 |

5 | I am not too satisfied

6 |

7 |

8 |

9 | I am very satisfied

Scoring: rated on an open horizontal line scale divided afterwards in 9 sections.

O-Sum/*/sq/nt/11/a

Self report on single question:

Equivalent questions on happiness and life-satisfaction rated on various scales. The items differ slightly in wording and number of the response options.

Scores are transformed to a common range 0 - 10 by means of expert weighting of response options (Thurstone's method).

Appendix 2: Statistics used

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
AoV	<p>ANALYSIS of VARIANCE (ANOVA) Type: statistical procedure Measurement level: Correlate(s): nominal, Happiness: metric. In an ANOVA, the total happiness variability, expressed as the sum of squares, is split into two or more parts, each of which is assigned to a source of variability. At least one of those sources is the variability of the correlate, in case there is only one, and always one other is the residual variability, which includes all unspecified influences on the happiness variable. Each sum of squares has its own number of degrees of freedom (df), which sum up to $N_e - 1$ for the total variability. If a sum of squares (SS) is divided by its own number of df, a mean square (MS) is obtained. The ratio of two correctly selected mean squares has an F-distribution under the hypothesis that the corresponding association has a zero-value.</p> <p>NOTE: A significantly high F-value only indicates that, in case of a single correlate, the largest of the c mean values is systematically larger than the smallest one. Conclusions about the other pairs of means require the application of a Multiple Comparisons Procedure (see e.g. BONFERRONI's MULTIPLE COMPARISON TEST, DUNCAN's MULTIPLE RANGE TEST or STUDENT-NEWMAN-KEULS)</p>
Chi ²	<p>CHI-SQUARE Type: test statistic Range: $[0; N_e * (\min(c,r) - 1)]$, where c and r are the number of columns and rows respectively in a cross tabulation of N_e sample elements.</p> <p>Meaning: $\text{Chi}^2 \leq (c-1) * (r-1)$ means: no association $\text{Chi}^2 \gg (c-1) * (r-1)$ means: strong association</p>
mr	<p>Mean correlation coefficient (r). For r, see PRODUCT-MOMENT CORRELATION</p>
r	<p>PRODUCT-MOMENT CORRELATION COEFFICIENT (Also "Pearson's correlation coefficient" or simply 'correlation coefficient') Type: test statistic. Measurement level: Correlate: metric, Happiness: metric Range: $[-1; +1]$</p> <p>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.</p>

Appendix 3: About the World Database of Happiness

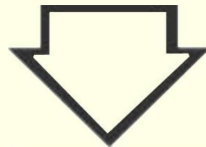
Structure of the collections

The World Database of Happiness is an ongoing register of scientific research on the subjective enjoyment of life.

It brings together findings that are scattered throughout many studies and provides a basis for synthetic work.

World literature on Happiness

Selection on subject



Bibliography and Directory

Selection of empirical studies



Selection on valid measurement: Item

Bank

Abstracting and classification of findings



How happy people are, distributional findings
Happiness in Nations , Happiness in Publics

What goes together with happiness
Correlational Findings



Listing of comparable findings in Nations



States of Nations , Trends in Nations

Size of the collections

1226 Happiness measures (Item Bank)

4258 Nations surveys in 206 Nations

149 Distinguished publics in 1199 studies

12032 Correlational findings in 1196 studies

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	48
A4	AGE	400
A5	AGGRESSION	12
A6	ANOMY	32
A7	APPEARANCE (good looks)	15
A8	ATTITUDES	6
A9	AUTHORITARIANISM	4
B1	BIRTH CONTROL	1
B2	BIRTH HISTORY (own birth)	201
B3	BODY	77
C1	CHILDREN	1
C2	CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	6
C3	CHILDREN: HAVING (parental status)	195
C4	CHILDREN: CHARACTERISTICS OF ONE'S CHILDREN	25
C5	CHILDREN: RELATION WITH ONE'S CHILDREN	8
C6	CHILDREN: REARING OF ONE'S CHILDREN (parental behavior)	26
C7	COMMUNAL LIVING	9
C8	CONCERNS	18
C9	COPING	43
C10	CREATIVENESS	6
C11	CULTURE (Arts and Sciences)	8
D1	DAILY JOYS & HASSLES	5
E1	EDUCATION	302
E2	EMPLOYMENT	363
E3	ETHNICITY	98
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	152
G1	GENDER	370
G2	GRIEF	1
H1	HABITS	1
H2	HANDICAP	25
H3	HAPPINESS: VIEWS ON HAPPINESS	49

H4	HAPPINESS: DISPERSION OF HAPPINESS	10
H5	HAPPINESS: CAREER	191
H6	HAPPINESS: CORRESPONDENCE OF DIFFERENT MEASURES	310
H7	HAPPINESS OF OTHERS	0
H8	HAPPINESS: REPUTATION OF HAPPINESS	19
H9	HEALTH-BEHAVIOR	25
H10	HELPING	5
H11	HOPE	8
H12	HOUSEHOLD: COMPOSITION	137
H13	HOUSEHOLD: WORK	32
H14	HOUSING	106
I1	INCOME	552
I2	INSTITUTIONAL LIVING	43
I3	INTELLIGENCE	71
I4	INTERESTS	8
I5	INTERVIEW	73
I6	INTIMACY	103
L1	LANGUAGE	2
L2	LEADERSHIP	8
L3	LEISURE	206
L4	LIFE APPRAISALS: OTHER THAN HAPPINESS	368
L5	LIFE CHANGE	35
L6	LIFE EVENTS	86
L7	LIFE GOALS	75
L8	LIFE HISTORY	2
L9	LIFE STYLE	22
L10	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	374
L11	LOTTERY	8
L12	LOVE-LIFE	31
M1	MARRIAGE: MARITAL STATUS CAREER	64
M2	MARRIAGE: CURRENT MARITAL STATUS	543
M3	MARRIAGE: RELATIONSHIP	115
M4	MARRIAGE: PARTNER	46
M5	MEANING	23
M6	MEDICAL TREATMENT	81
M7	MENTAL HEALTH	218
M8	MIGRATION: TO OTHER COUNTRY	29
M9	MIGRATION: MOVING WITHIN COUNTRY (residential mobility)	17
M10	MIGRATION: MIGRANT WORK	3

M11	MILITARY LIFE	7
M12	MODERNITY	6
M13	MOOD	246
M14	MOTIVATION	7
N1	NATION: NATIONALITY	29
N2	NATION: ERA (temporal period)	41
N3	NATION: NATIONAL CHARACTER (modal personality)	29
N4	NATION: CONDITION IN ONE'S NATION	430
N5	NATION: POSITION OF ONE'S NATION	1
N6	NATION: ATTITUDES TO ONES NATION	152
N7	NATION: LIVABILITY OF ONE'S NATION	17
N8	NATION i: ATTITUDES IN	1
N9	REGION IN NATION	59
N10	NUTRITION	23
N21	ERA	0
O1	OCCUPATION	178
O2	ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION	17
P1	PERSONALITY: HISTORY	48
P2	PERSONALITY: CHANGE	10
P3	PERSONALITY: CURRENT ORGANIZATION	7
P4	PERSONALITY: CURRENT TRAITS	462
P5	PERSONALITY: LATER	23
P6	PHYSICAL HEALTH	427
P7	PLANNING	11
P8	POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR	231
P9	POPULARITY	26
P10	POSSESSIONS	60
P11	PRISON	1
P12	PROBLEMS	25
P13	PSYCHO-SOMATIC COMPLAINTS	62
P14	PETS	3
R1	RELIGION	251
R2	RESOURCES	9
R3	RETIREMENT	89
R4	ROLES	23
S1	SCHOOL	129
S2	SELF-IMAGE	237
S3	SEX-LIFE	61
S4	SLEEP	16

S5	SOCIAL MOBILITY	17
S6	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: PERSONAL CONTACTS	69
S7	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION : VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS	131
S8	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: TOTAL (personal + associations)	34
S9	SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS	154
S10	SOCIAL SUPPORT: RECEIVED	62
S11	SOCIAL SUPPORT: PROVIDED	6
S12	SPORTS	38
S13	STIMULANTS	49
S14	SUICIDE	8
S15	SUMMED DETERMINANTS	92
T1	TIME	53
T2	THERAPY	38
T3	TOLERANCE	37
V1	VALUES: CAREER	8
V2	VALUES: CURRENT PREFERENCES (own)	73
V3	VALUES: CLIMATE (current values in environment)	7
V4	VALUES: SIMILARITY (current fit with others)	12
V5	VICTIM	14
W1	WAR	5
W2	WISDOM	2
W3	WORK: CAREER	2
W4	WORK: CONDITIONS	68
W5	WORK: ATTITUDES	347
W6	WORK: PERFORMANCE (current)	29
W7	WORRIES	31
XX	UNCLASSIFIED	25

Appendix 5: Related Subjects

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Related Subject(s)</i>
A8.1.1 Earlier attitudes	P1 PERSONALITY: HISTORY
A8.1.4 Later attitudes	P5 PERSONALITY: LATER
A8.3 Own attitudinal organization	P3.2 Personality integration
A8.3 Own attitudinal organization	P4 PERSONALITY: CURRENT TRAITS
A8.3.1 Attitudinal rigidity	P4.90 Rigid
A8.3.3 Attitudinal stability	H5.1.2 Retrospective changes in happiness (unspecified)

A8.3.3 Attitudinal stability	H5.1.4	Expected change in happiness (period unspecified)
A8.3.3 Attitudinal stability	H5.2.2	Actual changes in happiness
A8.3.4 Attitudinal consonance	V4	VALUES: SIMILARITY (current fit with others)
A8.4 Attitudinal climate (attitudes of others)	N4.10	Value climate in the nation
A8.4 Attitudinal climate (attitudes of others)	N8	NATION i: ATTITUDES IN
A8.4.1 climate of attitudes to the nation	N6	NATION: ATTITUDES TO ONES NATION
A8.4.2 climate of attitudes to work	W5	WORK: ATTITUDES
A8.4.2 climate of attitudes to work	N8.1.1	. Modal satisfaction with job

A report of the World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings