



World Database of Happiness

Correlational Findings

© on data collected: Ruut Veenhoven, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Findings on Happiness & HELPING

Correlate Code: H 9

Classification of Findings

Correlate Code Correlate Name

***Number of Studies
on this Subject***

H 9	HELPING	0
H 9.1	Helping career	1
H 9.1.1	Earlier helping	0
H 9.1.2	Change in helping	0
H 9.1.4	Later helping	0
H 9.2	Current helping	3
H 9.3	Attitudes to helping	0

Appendix 1:	Happiness queries 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 Topics

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Study	HEDLE 1981	<i>Page in Report:</i>	400
<i>Reported in:</i>	Hedley, R.A Work, life and the pursuit of happiness: a study of Australian industrial workers. The journal of industrial relations 1981 vol 10 pp 396-404		
<i>Population:</i>	Shop-floor workers in four metropolitan areas, south-eastern Australia, 1977		
<i>Sample:</i>	Non-probability purposive sample (unspecified)		
<i>Non-Response:</i>	42%		
<i>N:</i>	1486		

Measured Correlate

<i>Class:</i>	Helping career Code: H 9.1
<i>Measurement:</i>	Single question: How often have you seriously thought that life wasn't really worth living. 1: a great deal 2: occasionally 3: once or twice 4: never
<i>Measured Values:</i>	1: 5%, 2: 20%, 3: 31%, 4: 44%
<i>Error Estimates:</i>	
<i>Remarks:</i>	

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
O-LWL/u/sq/v/4/a	G=+.51 p<.	
O-SLL/c/sq/v/3/a	G=+.61 p<.	

Study	BRINK 1986A	<i>Page in Report:</i>	164
<i>Reported in:</i>	Brinkerhoff, M & Jacob, J Quality of life in an alternative lifestyle. The smallholding movement. Social Indicators Research 18, p 153-173		
<i>Population:</i>	Back to the land' mini-farmers, West USA and Canada,198?		
<i>Sample:</i>	Non-probability purposive sample (unspecified)		
<i>Non-Response:</i>	510		
<i>N:</i>	44 %		

Measured Correlate

Class: Current helping Code: H 9.2

Measurement: Full items not reported; questions on helping neighbours.

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
O-H?/?/sq/v/4/a	r=+.12 p<.005	

Study	CHARN 2000	Page in Report:	307
<i>Reported in:</i>	Charnes, G.; Grosskopf, B. Relative Payoffs and Happiness: an experimental study Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, 2001, Vol. 45, 301-328, ISSN 0167-2681		
<i>Population:</i>	University students, Barcelona, Spain, 1998		
<i>Sample:</i>	Non-probability accidental sample		
<i>Non-Response:</i>	0 %		
<i>N:</i>	121		

Measured Correlate

<i>Class:</i>	Current helping Code: H 9.2
<i>Measurement:</i>	<p>Ss met in one large room and were explained that they would randomly be assigned one of two roles in an experiment: A: Passive role (dead), no say in the decision, only asked what they would do if they had been in the other role and/or to predict the choice of B B: Active role (live), makes two decisions about partition of money between A and B</p> <p>After this introduction Ss were randomly assigned either role A or role B. Next Ss answered written questions about respectively general happiness (GH), comparative happiness (CH) and momentary happiness (MH)</p> <p>Then B's were asked to choose between two options for partition between all A and B subjects, which were equally rewarding for themselves: 1 downgrading: 400 for A, 600 for B 2 egalitarian: 600 for A, 600 for B</p>
<i>Measured Values:</i>	Egalitarian 88%, downgrading 12%
<i>Error Estimates:</i>	
<i>Remarks:</i>	Values were in Spanish Peseta's: 150 = US\$ 1 Only active subjects (B) considered here.

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query	Statistics	Remarks
A-AOL/g/sq/v/11/a	DM= ns	Downgrading: GH = 5.86 (MH=5.43) Egalitarian: GH = 5.44 (MH=5.43)
	rs=-.13 ns	Values were in Spanish Peseta's: 150 = US\$ 1 Only active subjects (B) considered here.
	rpc=-.13 ns	rpc controlled for mood of the moment (MH)

Study	CHARN 2000	<i>Page in Report:</i>	307
<i>Reported in:</i>	Charnes, G.; Grosskopf, B. Relative Payoffs and Happiness: an experimental study Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, 2001, Vol. 45, 301-328, ISSN 0167-2681		
<i>Population:</i>	University students, Barcelona, Spain, 1998		
<i>Sample:</i>	Non-probability accidental sample		
<i>Non-Response:</i>	0 %		
<i>N:</i>	121		

Measured Correlate

<i>Class:</i>	Current helping Code: H 9.2
<i>Measurement:</i>	<p>Ss met in one large room and were explained that they would randomly be assigned one of two roles in an experiment:</p> <p>A: Passive role (dead), no say in the decision, only asked what they would do if they had been in the other role and/or to predict the choice of B</p> <p>B: Active role (live), makes two decisions about partition of money between A and B.</p> <p>After this introduction Ss were randomly assigned either role A or role B.</p> <p>Next Ss answered written questions about respectively general happiness (GH), comparative happiness (CH) and momentary happiness (MH)</p> <p>Then B's were asked to choose between two options for partition between all A and B subjects, which were equally rewarding for themselves:</p> <p>1 other-rewarding: 900 for A, 600 for B</p> <p>2 egalitarian: 600 for A, 600 for B</p>
<i>Measured Values:</i>	Egalitarian 34 %, Other-rewarding 66 %
<i>Error Estimates:</i>	
<i>Remarks:</i>	<p>Values were in Spanish Peseta's: 150 = US\$ 1</p> <p>Only active subjects (B) considered here.</p>

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
A-AOL/g/sq/v/11/a	DM=+ ns	Other-rewarding choice: GH=6.60 (MH=5.98) Egalitarian choice: GH=6.71 (MH=6.24) Values were in Spanish Peseta's 150 = US\$ 1 Only active subjects (B) considered here.
	rs=+.04 ns	
	rpc=+.04 ns	rpc controlled for mood of the moment (MH)

Appendix 1 *Queries on Happiness used in reported Studies*

Happiness Query Code Full Text

A-AOL/g/sq/v/11/a	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>." In general how happy or unhappy do you usually feel....?" Check the one statement that best describes your average happiness.</p> <p>10 extremely happy (feeling ecstatic, joyous, fantastic) 9 very happy (feeling really good, elated) 8 pretty happy (spirits high, feeling good) 7 mildly happy (feeling fairly good and somewhat cheerful) 6 slightly happy (just a bit above neutral) 5 neutral (not particularly happy or unhappy) 4 slightly unhappy (just a bit below neutral) 3 mildly unhappy (just a little low) 2 pretty unhappy (somewhat "blue", spirits down) 1 very unhappy (depressed, spirits very low) 0 extremely unhappy (utterly depressed, completely down)</p>
O-H?/?/sq/v/4/a	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>Lead item not reported Response options: 4 very happy 3 quite happy 2 not very happy 1 not at all happy</p>
O-LWL/u/sq/v/4/a	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>"How often have you seriously thought that life wasn't really worth living.....?" 4 never 3 once or twice 2 occasionally 1 a great deal</p>
O-SLL/c/sq/v/3/a	<p>Selfreport on single question:</p> <p>"In general how satisfying do you find the way you are spending your life these days. Would you call it.....?" 3 completely satisfying 2 pretty satisfying 1 not very satisfying</p>

On the web you will find an overview of valid queries on happiness and an explanation of the classification used. Go to: www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness/hap_quer/hqi_fp.htm. This is the introductory text to the Catalog of Happiness Queries.

Appendix 2 *Statistics used in reported studies*

<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>
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>
rpc	<p>PARTIAL CORRELATION COEFFICIENT Type: test statistic Measurement level: Correlate: metric, Happiness: metric Range: [-1; +1]</p> <p>Meaning: a partial correlation between happiness and one of the correlates is that correlation, which remains after accounting for the contribution of the other influences, or some of them, to the total variability in the happiness scores. Under that conditions $rpc > 0$ « a higher correlate level corresponds with a higher happiness rating, $rpc < 0$ « a higher correlate level corresponds with a lower happiness rating,</p>
rs	<p>SPEARMAN'S RANK CORRELATION COEFFICIENT Type: test statistic Measurement level: Correlate: ordinal, Happiness: ordinal. Range: [-1; +1]</p>

Meaning:

$rs = 0$ « no rank correlation

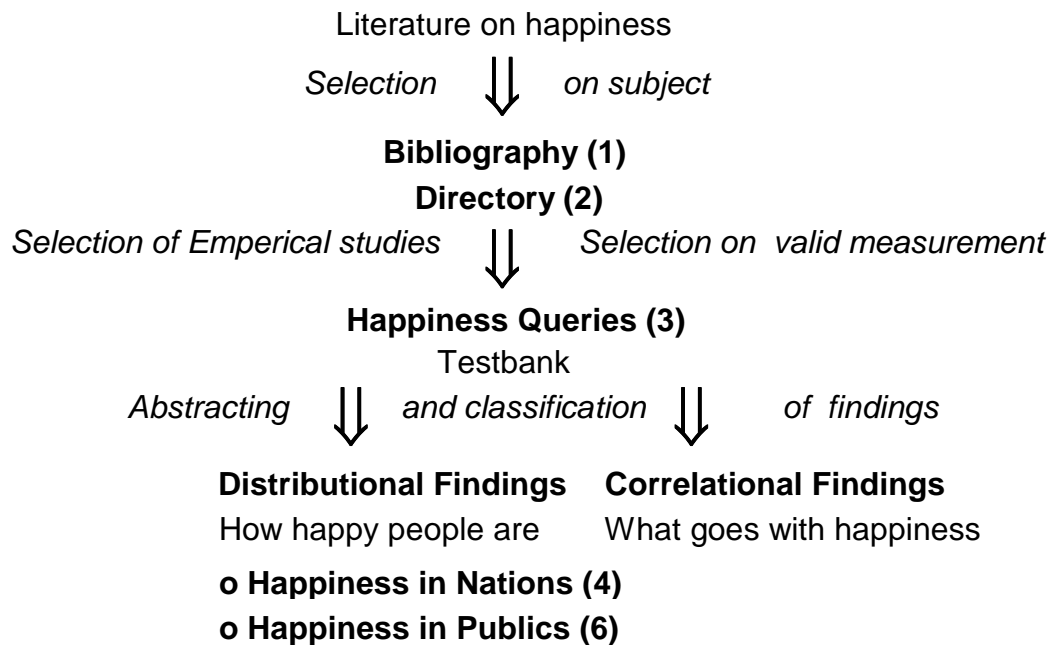
$rs = 1$ « perfect rank correlation, where high correlate values are associated with high happiness ratings

$rs = -1$ « perfect rank correlation, where high correlate values are associated with low happiness ratings

On the web you will find a text explaining the statistics used in more detail. Go to: www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness/hap_cor/cor_fp.htm. This is the introductory text to the Catalog of Correlational Findings. An overview of all statistics is in chapter 4.

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: 3422 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 QUERIES (testbank) Presents all indicators that tap happiness as defined here. Current content: 522 measures, mostly single questions. Queries 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: 1889 surveys in 112 nations, 1946-2000.
- 5 CATALOG OF HAPPINESS IN PUBLICS Distributional findings on happiness in special publics within nations, such as aged people. Current contents: 705 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: 7476 findings from 705 studies in 140 nations, 1911-2000.

Appendix 4 Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness

<i>Main Category's</i>	<i>Category Name</i>	<i>Number of Studies in this Category</i>
A 1	ACTIVITY LEVEL (how much one does)	53
A 2	ACTIVITY PATTERN (what one does)	7
A 3	AFFECTIVE LIFE	31
A 4	AGE	279
A 5	AGGRESSION	11
A 6	ANOMY	30
A 7	APPEARANCE (good looks)	8
A 8	ATTITUDES	4
A 9	AUTHORITARIANISM	4
B 3	BODY	66
C 1	CHILDREN 1:	4
C 10	CREATIVENESS	6
C 11	CULTURE (Arts and Sciences)	6
C 2	CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	6
C 3	CHILDREN: HAVING (parental status)	145
C 4	CHILDREN's CHARACTERISTICS	19
C 5	CHILDREN: RELATION WITH	8
C 6	CHILDREN: REARING (parental behavior)	11
C 7	COMMUNAL LIVING	1
C 8	CONCERNS	15
C 9	COPING	27
D 1	DAILY JOYS & HASSLES	4
E 1	EDUCATION	243
E 2	EMPLOYMENT	180
E 3	ETHNICITY	63
E 4	EXPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR	10
F 1	FAMILY OF ORIGIN (earlier family for adults, current for young)	195
F 2	FAMILY OF PROCREATION	42
F 3	FAMILY OF RELATIVES	145
F 4	FARMING	30
F 5	FREEDOM	24
F 6	FRIENDSHIP	123
G 1	GENDER	252
G 2	GRIEF	1
H 10	HOPE	3
H 11	HOUSEHOLD: COMPOSITION	90
H 12	HOUSEHOLD: WORK	10
H 13	HOUSING	75
H 2	HANDICAP	13

H 3	HAPPINESS: ATTITUDES	39
H 5	HAPPINESS CAREER	144
H 6	HAPPINESS: CURRENT LEVEL	260
H 8	HEALTH-BEHAVIOR	15
H 9	HELPING	4
I 1	INCOME	415
I 2	INSTITUTIONAL LIVING	28
I 3	INTELLIGENCE	63
I 4	INTERESTS	5
I 5	INTERVIEW	49
I 6	INTIMACY	70
L 1	LANGUAGE	1
L 10	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	270
L 11	LOTTERY	7
L 12	LOVE-LIFE	26
L 2	LEADERSHIP	8
L 3	LEISURE	128
L 4	LIFE APPRAISALS: OTHER THAN HAPPINESS4	290
L 5	LIFE-CHANGE	26
L 6	LIFE-EVENTS	63
L 7	LIFE-GOALS	52
L 8	LIFE HISTORY	1
L 9	LIFE STYLE	4
M 1	MARRIAGE: MARITAL STATUS CAREER	32
M 10	MIGRATION: MIGRANT WORK	3
M 11	MILITARY LIFE	5
M 12	MODERNITY	5
M 13	MOOD	181
M 2	MARRIAGE: CURRENT MARITAL STATUS	315
M 3	MARRIAGE: RELATIONSHIP	99
M 4	MARRIAGE: PARTNER	34
M 5	MEANING	18
M 6	MEDICAL TREATMENT	49
M 7	MENTAL HEALTH	99
M 8	MIGRATION: OTHER COUNTRY	9
M 9	MIGRATION: MOVING WITHIN COUNTRY (residential mobility)	17
N 1	NATIONALITY	5
N 2	NATION: TIME & PLACE	20
N 3	NATIONAL CHARACTER (modal personality)	2
N 4	NATION'S CONDITION	52
N 6	ATTITUDES TO THE NATION	111
N 7	LIVABILITY OF THE NATION	5
N 8	NUTRITION	18
O 1	OCCUPATION	133

O 2	ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION	11
P 1	PERSONALITY: HISTORY	44
P 10	POSSESSIONS	26
P 12	PROBLEMS	20
P 13	PSYCHO-SOMATIC COMPLAINTS	53
P 2	PERSONALITY: CHANGE	7
P 3	PERSONALITY: CURRENT ORGANIZATION	7
P 4	PERSONALITY: CURRENT TRAITS	392
P 5	PERSONALITY: LATER	23
P 6	PHYSICAL HEALTH	286
P 7	PLANNING	7
P 8	POLITICS	197
P 9	POPULARITY	22
R 1	RELIGION	198
R 2	RESOURCES	8
R 3	RETIREMENT	46
R 4	ROLES	13
S 1	SCHOOL	92
S 10	SOCIAL SUPPORT: RECEIVED	26
S 11	SOCIAL SUPPORT: Provided	3
S 12	SPORTS	32
S 13	STIMULANTS	33
S 14	SUICIDE	4
S 15	SUMMED EFFECTS ON HAPPINESS	71
S 2	SELF-IMAGE	193
S 3	SEX-LIFE	54
S 4	SLEEP	10
S 5	SOCIAL MOBILITY	16
S 6	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: PERSONAL CONTACTS	50
S 7	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS	111
S 8	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: TOTAL (personal + associations)	25
S 9	SOCIAL STATUS (Socio-Economic Status)	140
T 1	TIME	27
T 2	THERAPY	9
T 3	TOLERANCE	37
V 1	VALUE CAREER	8
V 2	VALUES: CURRENT PREFERENCES (own)	49
V 3	VALUES: CLIMATE (current values in environment)	4
V 4	VALUES: SIMILARITY (current fit with others)	5
V 5	VICTIM	11
W 1	WAR	5
W 2	WORK CAREER	1
W 3	WORK CONDITIONS	34
W 4	WORK-ATTITUDES	313

W 5	WORK-PERFORMANCE (current)	6
W 6	WORRIES	27
X	UNCLASSIFIED	22

Appendix 5 Related Topics***This Topic****Classification Page 1****Related Topics****In Subject List on Appendix 4*

H 9	HELPING	S 11	SOCIAL SUPPORT: Provided ALTRUISM
H 9.1	Helping career		
H 9.1.1	Earlier helping		
H 9.1.2	Change in helping		
H 9.1.4	Later helping		
H 9.2	Current helping		
H 9.3	Attitudes to helping		

End of Report