



World Database of Happiness

Correlational Findings

© on data collected: Ruut Veenhoven, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Findings on Happiness & INTERESTS

Correlate Code: I 4

Classification of Findings

Correlate Code *Correlate Name*

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

I 4	INTERESTS	1
I 4.1	Interest career	0
I 4.2	Current interests	4
I 4.3	Attitudes to own interests	0

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Appendix 4: Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness
Appendix 5: Related Topics
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Study	WEBB 1915/1	<i>Page in Report:</i>	26
<i>Reported in:</i>	Webb, E. Character and intelligence. An attempt at an exact study of character. London, 1915, Cambridge University Press.		
<i>Population:</i>	Male college students, England, 1912		
<i>Sample:</i>			
<i>Non-Response:</i>	-		
<i>N:</i>	194		

Measured Correlate

Class: INTERESTS Code: I 4

Measurement: Trained-peer rating on love for the beautiful for its own sake on a 7-point scale on the basis of observation during 6 months.

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
A-CP/g/rdp/ro/7/a	r=-.07	

Study	BEISE 1974	<i>Page in Report:</i>	235
<i>Reported in:</i>	Beiser, M. Components and correlates of mental well-being Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 1974, vol. 15, p. 320-327		
<i>Population:</i>	18+ aged, general public, Stirling County, Canada, 1968		
<i>Sample:</i>			
<i>Non-Response:</i>	10%		
<i>N:</i>	112		

Measured Correlate

Class: Current interests Code: I 4.2

Measurement: Direct question on number of hobbies Weighted score based on number of hobbies and amount of skill involved.

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
A-BB/cq/mq/v/3/a	r=	Index of Positive Affects: r = +.16 (05) Index of Negative Affects: r = +.30 (01)

Study	BRAY 1980	<i>Page in Report:</i>	285
<i>Reported in:</i>	Bray, D.W. & Howard, A. Career Success and Life Satisfaction of Middle-Aged Managers Competence and coping during adulthood, pp 258-287, University Press of New England, Hanover, New Hampshire 1980. Also "Managerial Lives in Transition" by Howard, A. & Bray, D.W., The Guilford Press 1988.		
<i>Population:</i>	40+ aged, male managers, Bell Telephone Company, 1978		
<i>Sample:</i>	Non-probability purposive-quota sample		
<i>Non-Response:</i>	panel loss at T5: 37%		
<i>N:</i>	422 * *)		

Measured Correlate

Class: Current interests Code: I 4.2

Measurement: Rating by 4 experts on the basis of multi-method assessments during stays in assessment-center.

Rater instruction: "To what extent is this person interested in a variety of fields of activity such as science, politics, sports, music, and art and so on?"

Assessed at T5.

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
M-PL/c/rc/v/5/a	r=-.09 ns	T5 range of interests by T5 happiness. Later analysis of the full study-group (N=266) showed a non-significant correlation (BRAY 1983: 302).

Study	NOELL1977/10	<i>Page in Report:</i>	233
<i>Reported in:</i>	Noelle-Neumann, E. Politik und Glück (Politics and happiness) H. Baier (ed.) Freiheit und Sachzwang, Westdeutscher Verlag, Opladen, 1977, 208 - 262		
<i>Population:</i>	16-29 aged and pensioners, West-Germany, 1976		
<i>Sample:</i>			
<i>Non-Response:</i>			
<i>N:</i>	855		

Measured Correlate

<i>Class:</i>	Current interests Code: I 4.2
<i>Measurement:</i>	Single direct question: no (0) yes (1) 'I am very much interested in films about historical events'. Chosen from a pack of 16 person descriptions as being descriptive for oneself.
<i>Measured Values:</i>	
<i>Error Estimates:</i>	
<i>Remarks:</i>	

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
A-CA/mh/ri/v/2/b	D%=+	Young (16 - 29) and pensioners only. In both categories the cheerful claim more interest in historical films.

Study	SYMON 1937	<i>Page in Report:</i>	292
<i>Reported in:</i>	Symonds, P.M. Happiness as related to problems and interests Journal of Educational Psychology, 1937, vol. 28, p. 290-294		
<i>Population:</i>	High school pupils and college students, USA, 193?		
<i>Sample:</i>			
<i>Non-Response:</i>	-		
<i>N:</i>	1651		

Measured Correlate

<i>Class:</i>	Current interests Code: I 4.2
<i>Measurement:</i>	Closed question
<i>Measured Values:</i>	
<i>Error Estimates:</i>	
<i>Remarks:</i>	

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Query</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
A-CP/g/sq/v/7/a	SNR= ns	

Appendix 1 **Queries on Happiness used in reported Studies**
Happiness Query Code *Full Text*

A-BB/cq/mq/v/3/a

Selfreport on 10 questions:

"During the past few months, have you ever felt..... (often, sometimes, never?)"

- A Particularly exited or interested in something?
- B So restless that you couldn't sit long in a chair?
- C Proud because someone complimented you on something you had done?
- D Very lonely or remote from other people?
- E Pleased about having accomplished something?
- F Bored?
- G Depressed or very unhappy?
- H That things were going your way?
- I Upset because someone criticized you?

Answer options and scoring:

- 0 = no
- if yes
- 3 often
- 2 sometimes
- 1 never

Summation:

- Positive Affect Score (PAS): A+C+E+I
- Negative Affect Score (NAS): B+D+F+H+J
- Affect Balance Score (ABS): PAS minus NAS
- Possible range: -15 to +12
- Name: Bradburn's 'Affect Balance Scale' (standard version)

A-CA/mh/ri/v/2/b

Interviewer-rating of cheerfulness:

Altogether the respondent looks.....

- 2 quite cheerfull
- 1 not too cheerfull
- difficult to say

Part of the 8 item Allensbacher Ausdrücktest which also involves ratings of cheerful appearance in: look, mouth, posture, movements, eyes, elbows and lips. This general rating is the last item in the test.

Original text in German:

- Der Befragte sieht insgesamt -
- 2 Ganz fröhlich aus.....
- 1 Nicht so fröhlich aus.....
- Unmöglich zu sagen.....

A-CP/q/rdp/ro/7/a

Peer rating on single question (based on contact during 6 months):

Rater instruction: "personal qualities are named and briefly annotated in this

schedule. If you have any doubt as to the meaning of any of them, please ask me (investigator)

2. In the columns under each subject's name, place one of the marks for each of the qualities specified (+3, +2, +1, 0, -1, -2, -3) To avoid errors, please put the + sign as well as the -

'General tendency to be 'cheerful' (as opposed to being depressed and low spirited)

+3 very high compared to average

+2 distinctly above average

+1 slightly above average

0 average

-1 slightly below average

-2 distinctly below average

-3 lowest as compared to average

A-CP/q/sq/v/7/a

Selfreport on single question:

"Check one of the following groups of adjectives which best describes you."

7 full of deep joy, excitedly happy, enthusiastic, thrilled

6 cheerful, successful, optimistic, lighthearted

5 satisfied, comfortable, life goes smoothly, peaceful

4 contented at times and at other times discontented, life has both favorable and unfavorable features

3 restless, impatient, uncertain, dull, cross, confined

2 anxious, irritated, discouraged, disappointed, discontented

1 gloomy, miserable, a failure, no pleasure in anything

M-PL/c/rc/v/5/a

Clinical rating by 4 experts on the basis of multi-method assessments during periodical stays in assessment center.

Rater instruction:

"To what extent does this person find pleasure in life at the present time.....?"

1 low

2

3 average

4

5 high

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.

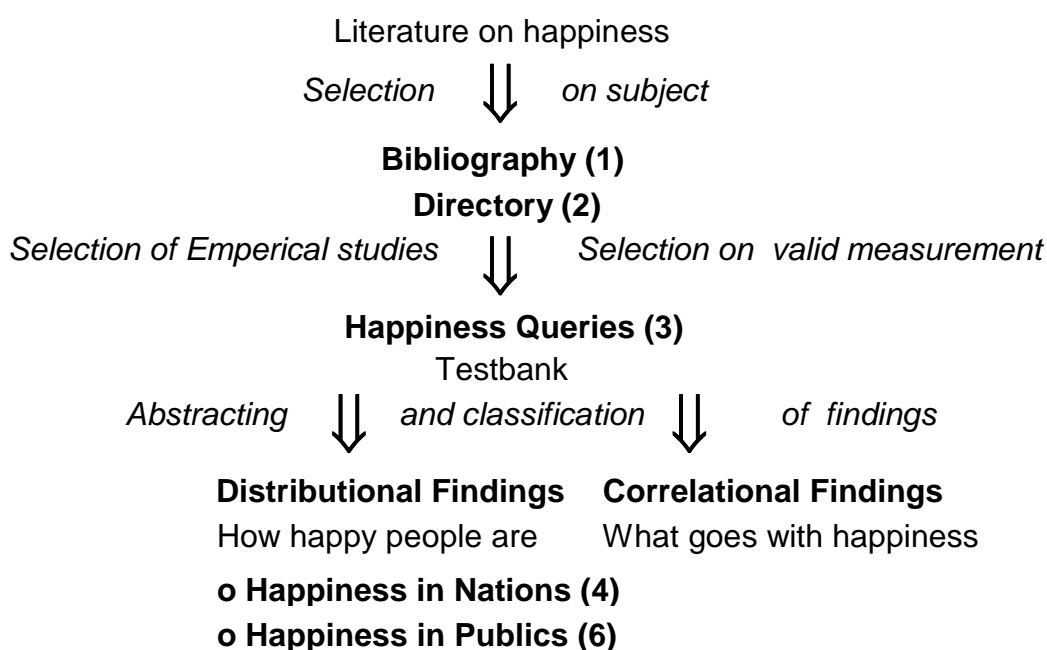
Appendix 2 Statistics used in reported studies

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
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>
r	<p>Meaning: the difference of the percentages happy people at two correlate levels. 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>
SNR	Statistic Not Reported

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:



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- 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*

I 4	INTERESTS	P 4.59	Interested
		L 7.2.2	Object of life-goals
		L 3.3.2	Specific leisure activities
		C 8	CONCERNS
I 4.1	Interest career		
I 4.2	Current interests		
I 4.3	Attitudes to own interests		

End of Report