

## INEQUALITY-ADJUSTED HAPPINESS IN 134 NATIONS 2000-2009

### How well nations combine level and differences in happiness

Findings report extracted from World Database of Happiness  
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Copied from <http://worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl> October 2015

[Technical details](#) [Map](#) [Cite as](#) Note: sort the table by mouse clicking a column heading.

	Code	Nation	Standard deviation of 0-10 life satisfaction	Average level of life satisfaction mean 0 - 10	Inequality-adjusted life satisfaction index 0 - 100
1	AF	Afghanistan	2.04	4.1	35
2	AL	Albania	2.50	4.6	35
3	DZ	Algeria	2.56	5.4	41
4	AD	Andorra	1.80	6.8	59
5	AO	Angola	3.19	4.3	26
6	AR	Argentina	1.97	7.3	62
7	AM	Armenia	2.01	5.0	42
8	AU	Australia	1.70	7.7	67
9	AT	Austria	2.06	7.4	62
10	AZ	Azerbaijan	2.06	5.3	44
11	BD	Bangladesh	2.26	5.3	42
12	BY	Belarus	2.02	5.2	43
13	BE	Belgium	1.77	7.3	63
14	BZ	Belize	2.00	6.6	55
15	BJ	Benin	2.70	3.0	20
16	BO	Bolivia	1.90	6.3	53
17	BW	Botswana	2.42	4.7	36
18	BR	Brazil	2.19	7.5	61
19	BG	Bulgaria	2.54	4.4	33
20	BF	Burkina Faso	2.02	4.4	37
21	BI	Burundi	1.96	2.9	25
22	KH	Cambodia	2.12	4.9	40
23	CM	Cameroon	1.69	3.9	36
24	CA	Canada	1.89	7.8	66
25	TD	Chad	2.61	5.4	40
26	CL	Chile	2.26	6.7	54
27	CN	China	2.71	6.3	47
28	CO	Colombia	2.14	7.7	63

	Code	Nation	Standard deviation of 0-10 life satisfaction	Average level of life satisfaction mean 0 - 10	Inequality-adjusted life satisfaction index 0 - 100
29	CG	Congo (Brazzaville)	2.93	3.7	23
30	CR	Costa Rica	1.71	8.5	73
31	CI	Côte d'Ivoire	1.63	4.4	41
32	HR	Croatia	2.48	6.0	47
33	CY	Cyprus	2.04	7.1	59
34	CZ	Czech Republic	2.18	6.5	53
35	DK	Denmark	1.55	8.3	73
36	DJ	Djibouti	2.54	5.7	43
37	DO	Dominican Republic	2.33	7.5	60
38	EC	Ecuador	2.05	6.4	53
39	EG	Egypt	2.89	5.7	40
40	SV	El Salvador	2.03	6.7	56
41	EE	Estonia	2.14	6.0	49
42	ET	Ethiopia	2.25	4.2	33
43	FI	Finland	1.61	7.9	69
44	FR	France	2.16	6.6	54
45	GE	Georgia	1.91	4.3	37
46	DE	Germany	2.00	7.1	60
47	GH	Ghana	2.35	5.2	41
48	GR	Greece	2.23	6.4	52
49	GY	Guyana	1.97	6.5	55
50	HN	Honduras	2.46	7.0	55
51	HK	Hong Kong	1.92	6.6	56
52	HU	Hungary	2.48	5.5	42
53	IS	Iceland	1.63	8.2	71
54	IN	India	2.13	5.5	45
55	ID	Indonesia	2.19	6.3	51
56	IR	Iran	2.55	5.9	45
57	IQ	Iraq	2.45	4.7	36
58	IE	Ireland	1.84	7.6	65
59	IL	Israel	2.29	7.0	56
60	IT	Italy	1.90	6.7	57
61	JP	Japan	2.03	6.5	54
62	JO	Jordan	2.51	5.9	45
63	KZ	Kazakhstan	1.90	6.1	52
64	KE	Kenya	2.14	3.7	30

	Code	Nation	Standard deviation of 0-10 life satisfaction	Average level of life satisfaction mean 0 - 10	Inequality-adjusted life satisfaction index 0 - 100
65	KR	Korea (South)	2.03	6.0	50
66	KO	Kosovo	2.19	5.4	43
67	KG	Kyrgyzstan	2.32	5.5	44
68	LA	Laos	1.72	6.2	55
69	LV	Latvia	2.19	5.4	43
70	LB	Lebanon	2.39	4.7	36
71	LT	Lithuania	2.24	5.5	44
72	LU	Luxembourg	1.96	7.7	64
73	MK	Macedonia	2.84	4.7	32
74	MG	Madagascar	1.86	3.7	33
75	MY	Malaysia	1.84	6.5	56
76	ML	Mali	2.90	4.7	32
77	MT	Malta	2.15	7.1	58
78	MR	Mauritania	2.62	4.9	36
79	MX	Mexico	2.19	7.9	64
80	MD	Moldova	2.36	4.9	38
81	MN	Mongolia	2.37	5.7	44
82	ME	Montenegro	2.64	5.2	38
83	MA	Morocco	2.22	5.4	43
84	MZ	Mozambique	1.76	3.8	34
85	NP	Nepal	1.65	5.3	48
86	NL	Netherlands	1.42	7.6	68
87	NZ	New Zealand	1.94	7.5	63
88	NI	Nicaragua	2.50	7.1	55
89	NE	Niger	1.75	3.8	34
90	NG	Nigeria	2.16	5.7	46
91	NO	Norway	1.67	7.9	68
92	PK	Pakistan	2.49	5.0	38
93	PS	Palestine	2.42	4.9	38
94	PA	Panama	2.02	7.8	65
95	PY	Paraguay	2.04	6.8	56
96	PE	Peru	2.35	6.2	49
97	PH	Philippines	2.49	5.9	45
98	PL	Poland	2.36	6.4	51
99	PT	Portugal	2.16	5.7	47
100	QA	Qatar	1.89	6.8	57

	Code	Nation	Standard deviation of 0-10 life satisfaction	Average level of life satisfaction mean 0 - 10	Inequality-adjusted life satisfaction index 0 - 100
101	RO	Romania	2.47	5.7	44
102	RU	Russia	2.46	5.5	43
103	RW	Rwanda	2.33	4.3	34
104	SA	Saudi Arabia	2.13	6.5	53
105	SN	Senegal	1.62	4.5	41
106	RS	Serbia	2.53	5.4	41
107	SL	Sierra Leone	2.36	3.5	27
108	SG	Singapore	1.73	6.9	60
109	SK	Slovakia	2.39	5.9	46
110	SI	Slovenia	2.16	6.9	56
111	ZA	South Africa	2.69	5.8	43
112	ES	Spain	1.81	7.2	62
113	LK	Sri Lanka	2.07	5.1	42
114	SE	Sweden	1.73	7.8	68
115	CH	Switzerland	1.55	8.0	71
116	SY	Syria	1.99	5.9	50
117	TW	Taiwan	2.29	6.2	50
118	TJ	Tajikistan	1.68	5.1	46
119	TZ	Tanzania	2.92	2.8	16
120	TH	Thailand	1.82	6.6	57
121	TG	Togo	2.08	2.6	22
122	TT	Trinidad and Tobago	2.40	7.0	55
123	TN	Tunisia	1.86	5.9	51
124	TR	Turkey	2.62	5.6	42
125	UG	Uganda	2.32	4.8	38
126	UA	Ukraine	2.34	5.0	39
127	GB	United Kingdom	2.01	7.2	60
128	US	United States	1.82	7.4	64
129	UY	Uruguay	2.01	6.7	56
130	UZ	Uzbekistan	1.96	6.0	51
131	VE	Venezuela	2.77	7.5	57
132	VN	Viet Nam	1.94	6.1	52
133	ZM	Zambia	2.61	5.0	37
134	ZW	Zimbabwe	2.42	3.0	22



## Technical details

1. Happiness assessed by means of surveys in general public samples.
  - This list is based on responses to a single question on life-satisfaction.
  - Data on *average* happiness in nations are taken from [Rank Report Average Happiness](#).
  - Data on *standard deviation* of happiness in nations are taken from [Rank Report Inequality of Happiness](#) .
  
2. In this ranking the focus is not only on the *level* of happiness in the country, but also on *inequality* in happiness among citizens.
  - Inequality in happiness can be measured by the dispersion of responses to survey-questions. The degree of dispersion can be expressed statistically in the standard deviation.
  - This choice of statistic is explained in more detail in Kalmijn, W. & Veenhoven, R, [Measuring Inequality of Happiness in Nations. In Search for Proper Statistics](#) in: Journal of Happiness Studies, 2005, vol. 6, pp. 357-396 .
  
3. Inequality-Adjusted-Happiness (IAH) is measured as a linear combination of the mean and the standard deviation of the distribution of happiness in a nation. The IAH values in this report are based on the choice to give equal weight to level and dispersion of happiness.
  - This index is expressed in the following formula:  $IAH = 8.28 (m - s) + 17.2$ , where  $m$  is the mean response to a question on happiness in a nation and  $s$  is the sample standard deviation of the responses, happiness being measured with a 0 to 10 scale ranging from most unhappy (0) to most happy (10).
  - On this index a score of 100 means that everybody is completely happy; e.g. that all respondents in the sample rated their happiness 10 on a 0 to 10 scale.
  - This measure was first presented at the conference of the International Society for Quality Of Life Studies (ISQOLS) in Frankfurt, July 2003. It is presented in more detail in Veenhoven, R. & Kalmijn, W. [Inequality-Adjusted Happiness \(IAH\) in Nations. Egalitarianism and Utilitarianism Married in a New Index of Societal Performance](#). in: Journal of Happiness Studies, 2005, vol. 6, pp. 421-455 .
  - A more elegant computation was proposed in 2011 in the paper Index of Inequality Adjusted happiness (IAH) improved. This latter method is applied in this rank list.
  
4. This list is included in SPSS datafile [States of Nations](#) as variable IAH\_LSBW10.11\_2000.09 .

### Cite as:

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