

WORLD DATABASE OF HAPPINESS

Archive of research findings on subjective enjoyment of life

Annual Report 2018

Aims Accumulation of scientific knowledge on happiness.

Approach

- Gathering *all* the empirical research findings on happiness and presenting these in an easy to overview standardized way.
- Updating this collection continuously, thus providing a basis for ongoing research synthesis.

Technique

Findings are described in a standard format and terminology on electronic *finding pages*. These pages are stored in an online *findings-archive* where they can be selected and sorted in various ways.

The technique allows for a new way of research reviewing, in which links to online pages with full detail are used.

Example: [Happiness of the self-employed: A research synthesis using an online findings archive.](#)

Collections

The World Database of Happiness consists of the following collections, which can be browsed on the website:

Contents by December 31 2018

- Bibliography: 13.048 publications in Bibliography of happiness, of which 6.814 report an empirical study that is eligible for inclusion in the findings archive
- Measures of happiness: 1.217 measures of happiness, mostly single survey questions varying in wording and response scale.
- Distributional findings: 12588 distributional findings in the general public, of which 8.821 in 173 nations and 3.767 findings in 2.456 regions and cities in nations
- Correlational findings: 16.252 correlational findings observed in 2.197 studies, excerpted from 1.667 publications.

Reports

The following reports are generated automatically

- *Publication reports*: Selection of publications on a particular subject. [Example income](#)
- *Nation reports*: Selection of all findings in a particular nation. [Example Netherlands](#)
- *Public reports*: Selection of all findings on a particular group [Example Retired](#)
- *Correlation reports*: Selection of correlational finding on a particular topic [Example age](#)

Website

<https://worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl>

Uses	<i>since start in 1998 uses by end 2018</i>	<i>added in 2018</i>
• Visitors website	1.296.580	34.908
• Citations (Google Scholar)	3.280	143
• Media mentions (LexisNexis)	379	27
• Datafiles provided on demand (StatesOfNations, TrendsInNations)	1.609	58

Additions in 2018

• Publications in bibliography	13.048	1.168
• Measures of Happiness	1.217	76
• Distributional findings		
○ In places (nations, regions)	12.588	297
○ In publics other than general	2.210	96
• Correlational findings	16.252	673
• Categories in classifications		
○ In bibliography	1.647	234
○ In correlational findings	3.495	277
○ In publics other than general	201	4
• Re-design website	<u>Beta</u>	

Publications in 2018

- [Happiness of the self-employed: A research synthesis using an on-line findings-archive](#)
- [Private wealth and happiness: A research synthesis using an online findings-archive](#)
- [Will healthy eating make you happier? A research synthesis using an online findings-archive](#)
- [Recht en geluk in landen \(Rule of law and happiness in Nations\)](#)
- [Subjective well-being in nations](#)
- [World Database of Happiness: A 'Findings Archive'](#)

Side products

- [E-course Scale Homogenization Techniques](#)

Plans for 2019

- Launch new website
- Trial paid entry
- Recruiting sponsors for particular sections of the database
- Recruiting associates who take responsibility for a particular section of the database
- Article in Journal on Research Synthesis