Subjective well-being in 97 countries

based on reported happiness and life satisfaction, equally weighted

(Ranked from happiest to least happy. Negative scores indicate that a majority of the population is unhappy/dissatisfied with life)

Country	Mean				
Denmark	4.24	Malaysia	2.61	Croatia	0.87
Puerto Rico	4.21	W. Germany	2.60	Morocco	0.87
Colombia	4.18	Vietnam	2.52	India	0.85
Iceland	4.15	France	2.50	Uganda	0.69
N Ireland	4.13	Philippines	2.47	Zambia	0.68
Ireland	4.12	Uruguay	2.43	Algeria	0.60
Switzerland	3.96	Indonesia	2.37	Burkina Faso	0.60
Netherlands	3.77	Chile	2.34	Egypt	0.52
Canada	3.76	Dominican Rep	2.29	Slovakia	0.41
Austria	3.68	Japan	2.24	Hungary	0.36
El Salvador	3.67	Spain	2.16	Montenegro	0.19
Malta	3.61	Israel	2.08	Tanzania	0.13
Luxemburg	3.61	Italy	2.06	Azerbaijan	0.13
Sweden	3.58	Portugal	2.01	**Macedonia**	**-0.06**
New Zealand	3.57	Taiwan	1.83	**Rwanda**	**-0.15**
U.S.A.	3.55	E. Germany	1.78	**Pakistan**	**-0.30**
Guatemala	3.53	Slovenia	1.77	**Ethiopia**	**-0.30**
Mexico	3.52	Ghana	1.73	**Estonia**	**-0.36**
Norway	3.50	Poland	1.66	**Serbian Bosnia**	**-0.45**
Belgium	3.40	Czech Rep	1.66	**Lithuania**	**-0.70**
Britain	3.39	China	1.64	**Latvia**	**-0.75**
Australia	3.26	Mali	1.62	**Romania**	**-0.88**
Venezuela	3.25	Kyrgyzstan	1.59	**Russia**	**-1.01**
Trinidad	3.25	Jordan	1.46	**Georgia**	**-1.01**
Finland	3.24	Greece	1.45	**Bulgaria**	**-1.09**
Saudi Arabia	3.17	S Africa	1.39	**Iraq**	**-1.36**
Thailand	3.02	Turkey	1.27	**Albania**	**-1.44**
Cyprus	2.96	Peru	1.24	**Ukraine**	**-1.69**
Nigeria	2.82	S Korea	1.23	**Belarus**	**-1.74**
Brazil	2.81	Hong Kong	1.16	**Moldova**	**-1.74**
Singapore	2.72	Iran	1.12	**Armenia**	**-1.80**
Argentina	2.69	Bangladesh	1.00	**Zimbabwe**	**-1.92**
Andorra	2.64	Bosnia	0.94	**Mean:**	**1.57**

Source: Combined data from 1995 – 2007 World Values Surveys. To maximize reliability, data from the last three waves are combined.

The scores shown are an index of subjective well-being based on each person's responses to questions about happiness and life satisfaction, giving each equal weight. Because life satisfaction is measured on a ten point scale, and happiness on a four-point scale and the two questions have opposite polarity, the SWB index was constructed as follows:

SWB = life satisfaction – 2.5 * happiness. If 100 % of its people were very happy and extremely satisfied, a country would get the maximum score of 7.5. If happiness and life satisfaction were evenly balanced, the country would get a score of zero. If more people were dissatisfied/unhappy than are satisfied/happy, the country gets a negative score (such countries are shown in bold face type). Question wordings are:

Taking all things together, would you say you are: 1 Very happy; 2 Rather happy; 3 Not very happy ; 4 Not at all happy.

All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? Using this card on which 1 means you are "completely dissatisfied" and 10 means you are "completely satisfied" where would you put your satisfaction with your life as a whole?

Completely dissatisfied Completely satisfied

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10