

An Analysis of the World Happiness Report



ECE 143, Group 4

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Studies show that rational factors such as GDP, income etc. do not tell much about a nation's happiness.

A need arose for more subjective metrics to define happiness.



The World Happiness Report



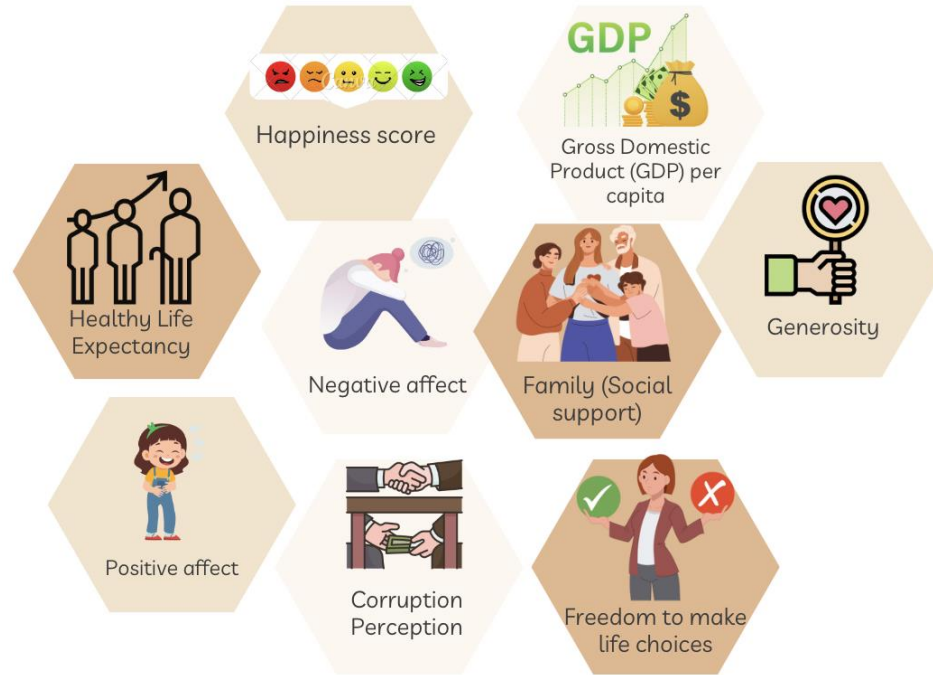
Report that ranks countries based on a happiness score on a scale of 0 to 10 based on polls taken by the citizens

Published yearly and data available on the official website for about 150 countries

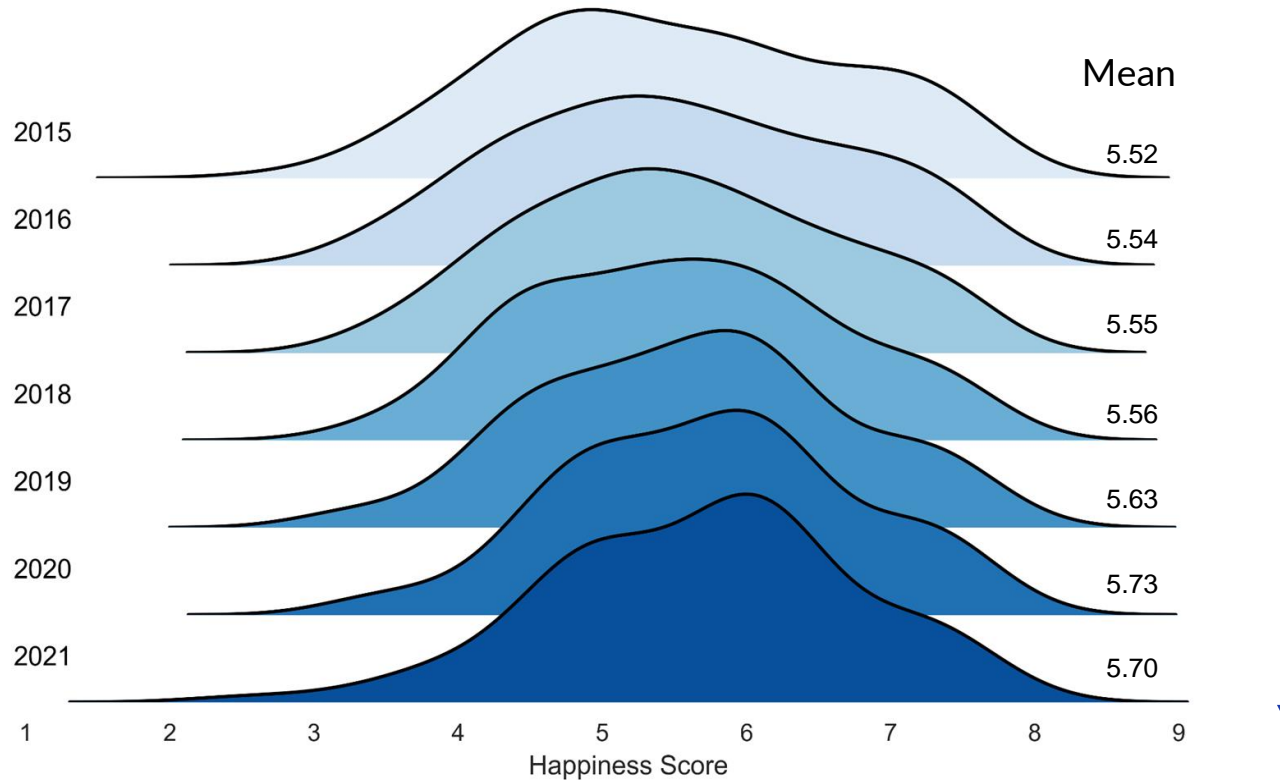


Our aim was to understand the trends in world happiness from 2015 - 2021

How is the happiness score defined?



How is Happiness distributed?

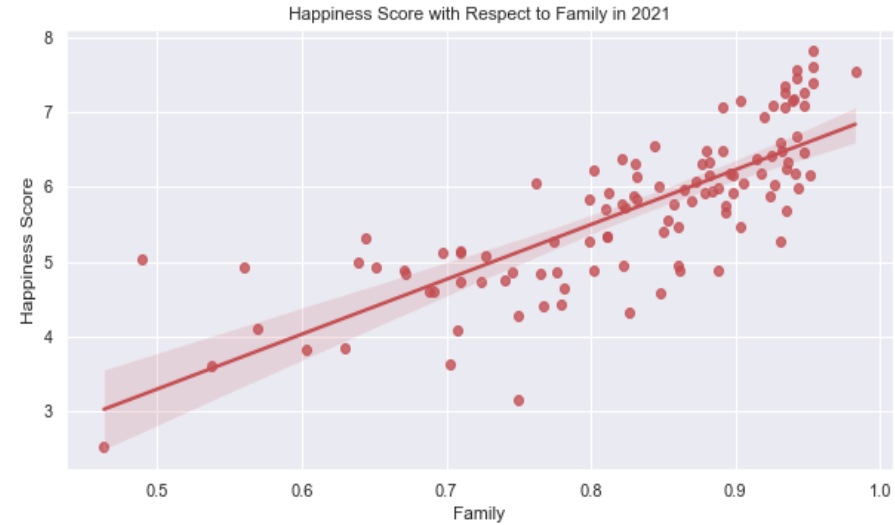


Which factors influence this score the most?

- Bivariate analysis of variables
- Drawing correlations from data

Family (Social Support):

Do citizens have someone they can rely on in times of trouble, on average?

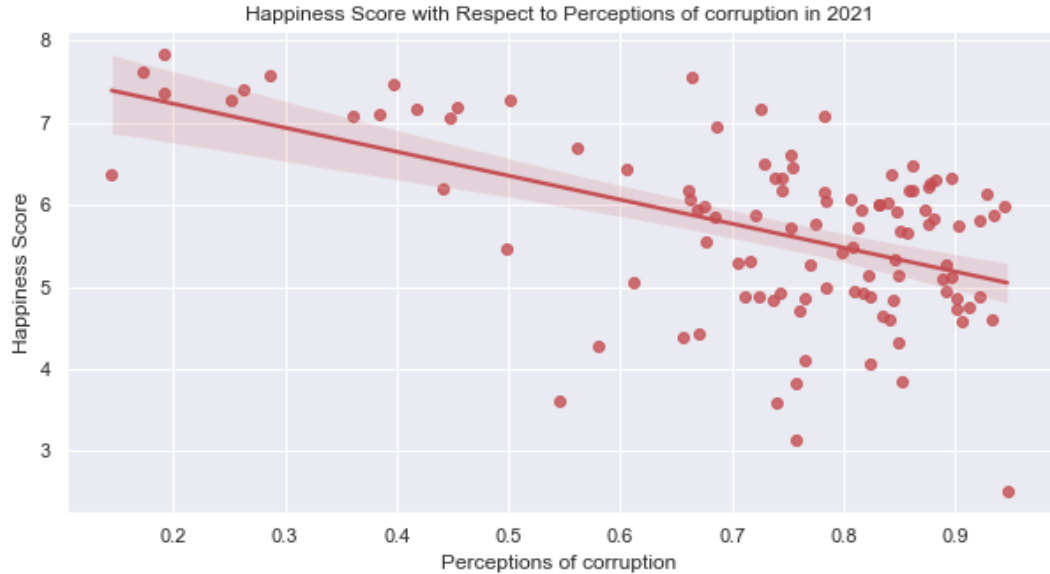


Freedom to make life choices:

Do citizens feel satisfied or dissatisfied with their freedom to make life choices, on average based on their responses?

Perceptions of Corruption:

Do the citizens think that corruption is widespread in the government and business?



People are more happy living in a nation with low corruption.



Confidence in national government:

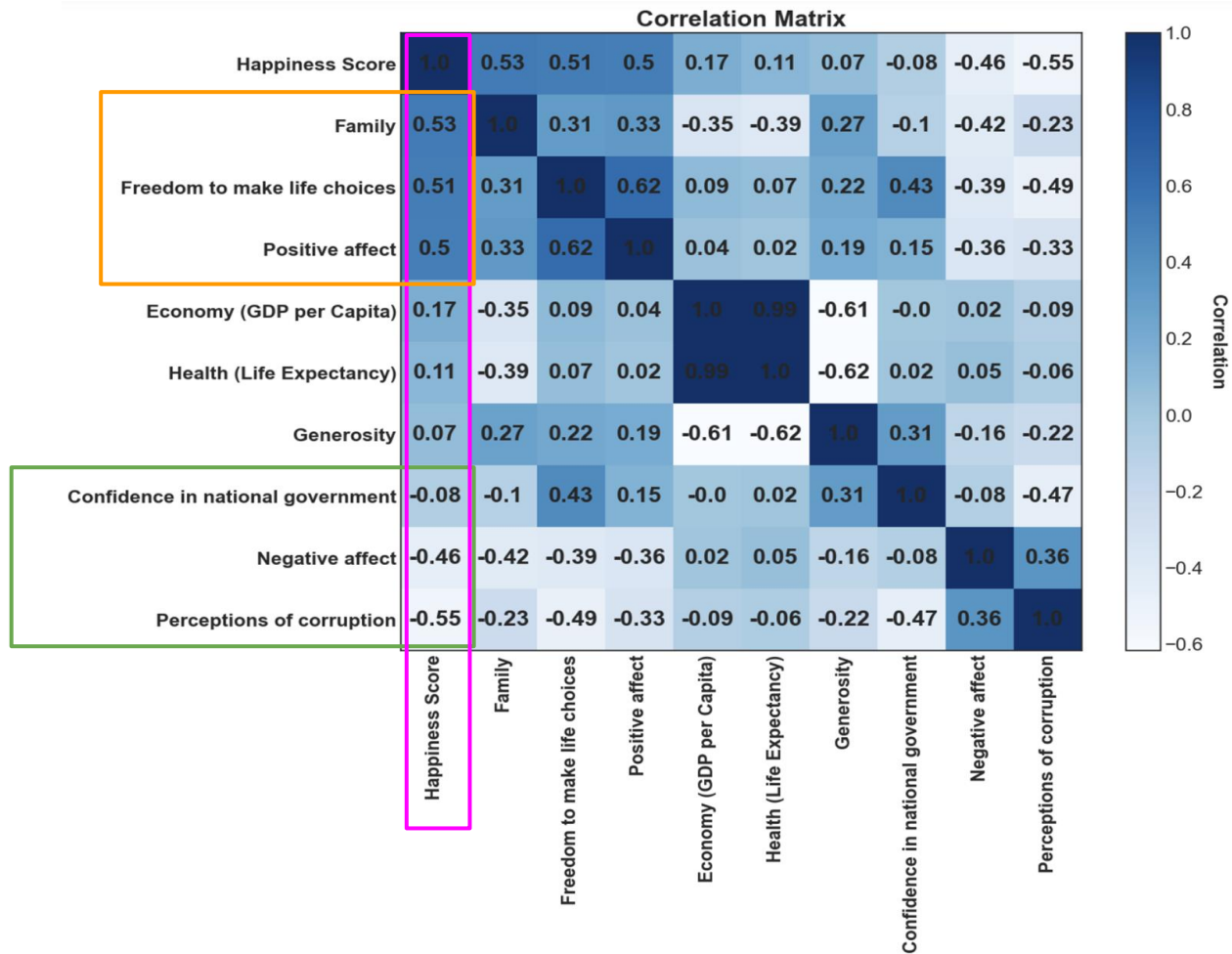
Is corruption is widespread in government and businesses?

Generosity:

Did the citizens donate money to charity?



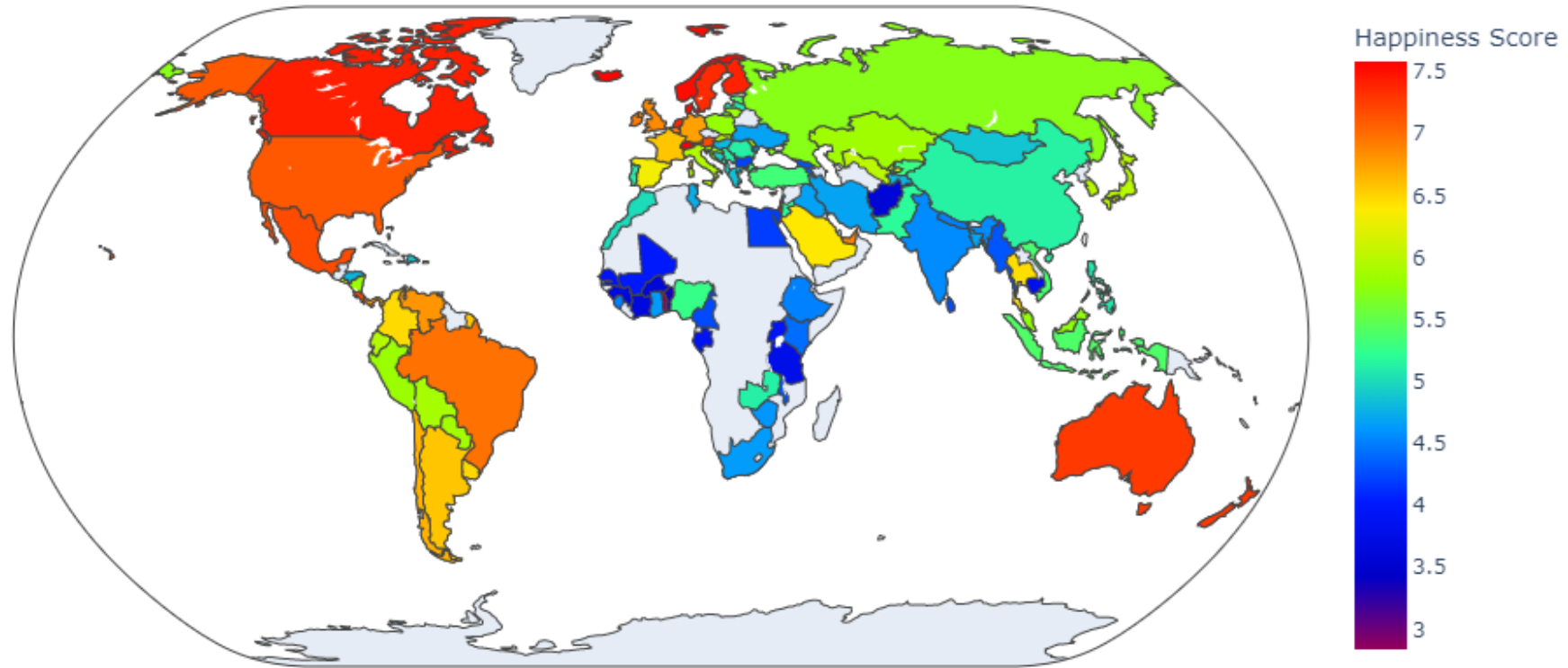
People are happy even with low generosity and confidence in government!



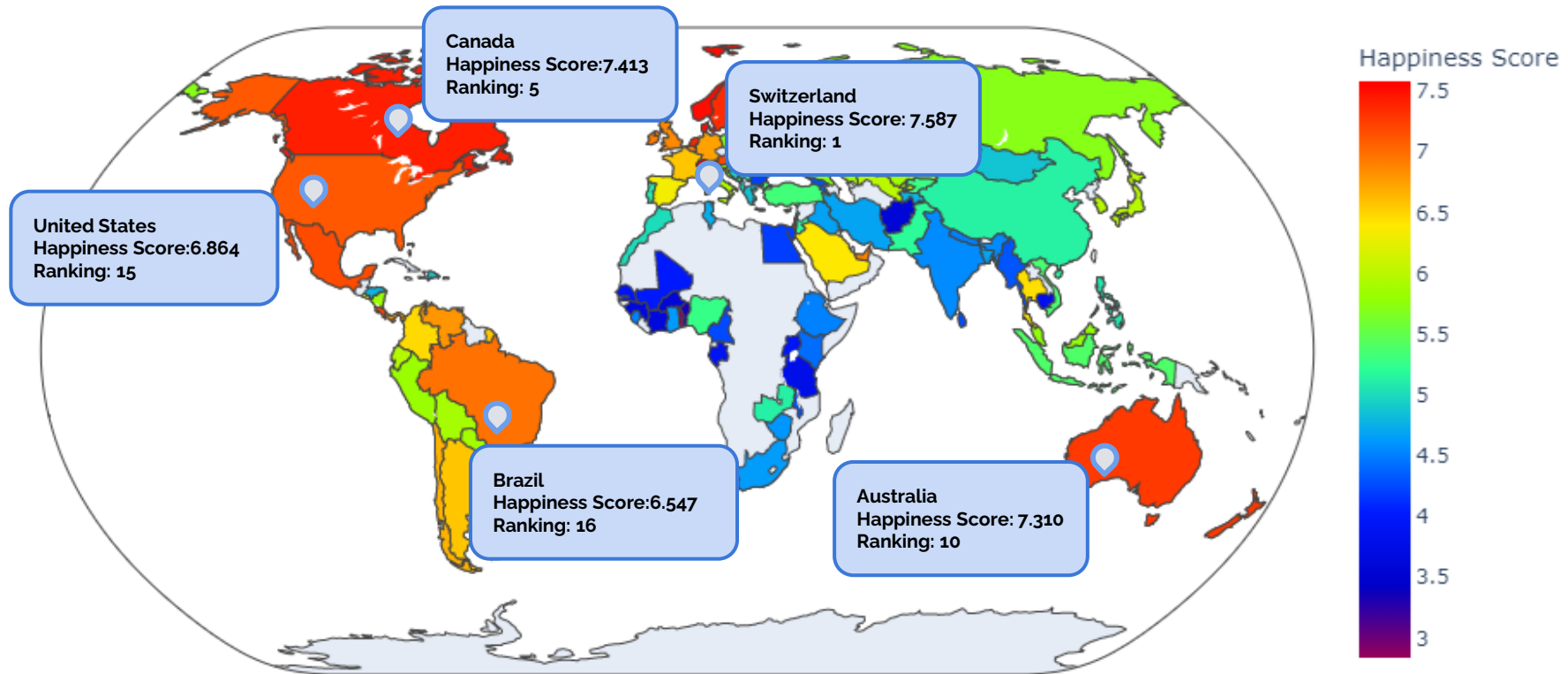
How happy is our world?

- Then v/s now
- Happiest countries in the world

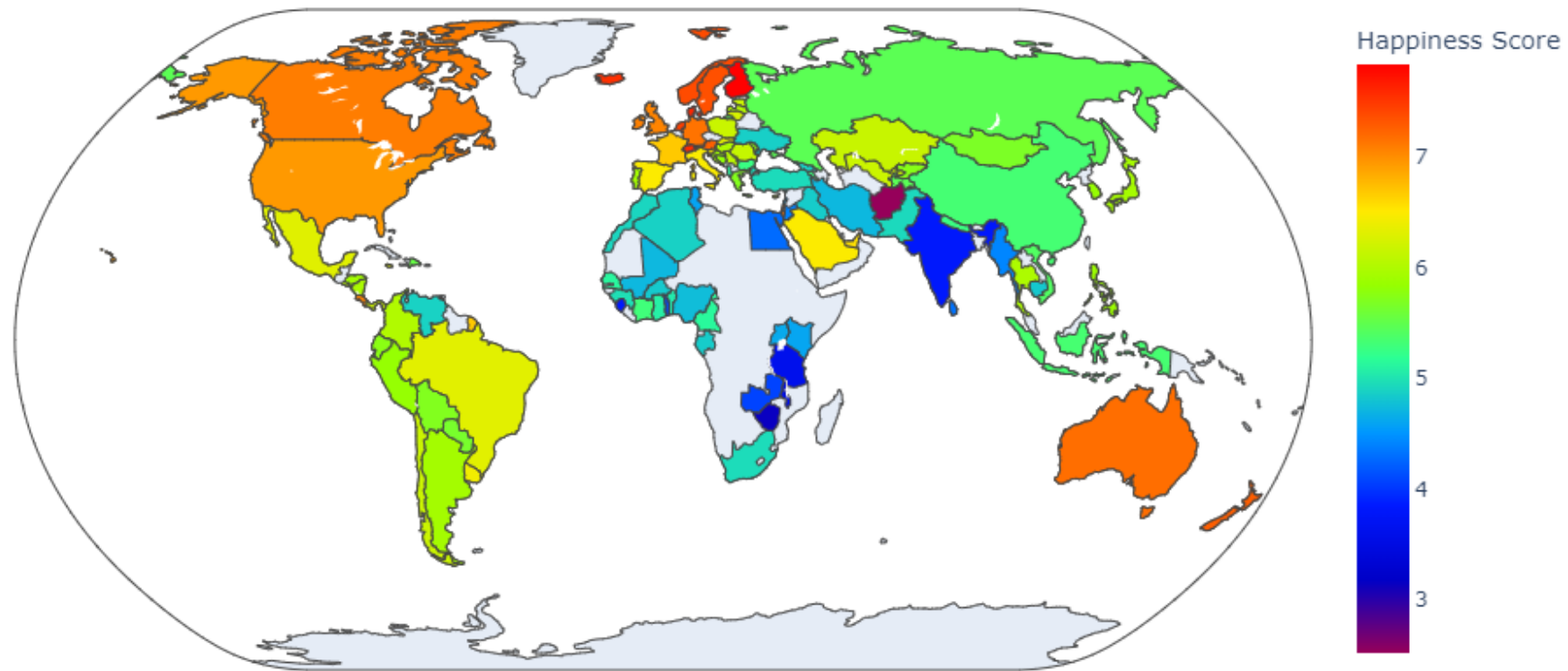
Happiness Scores in 2015



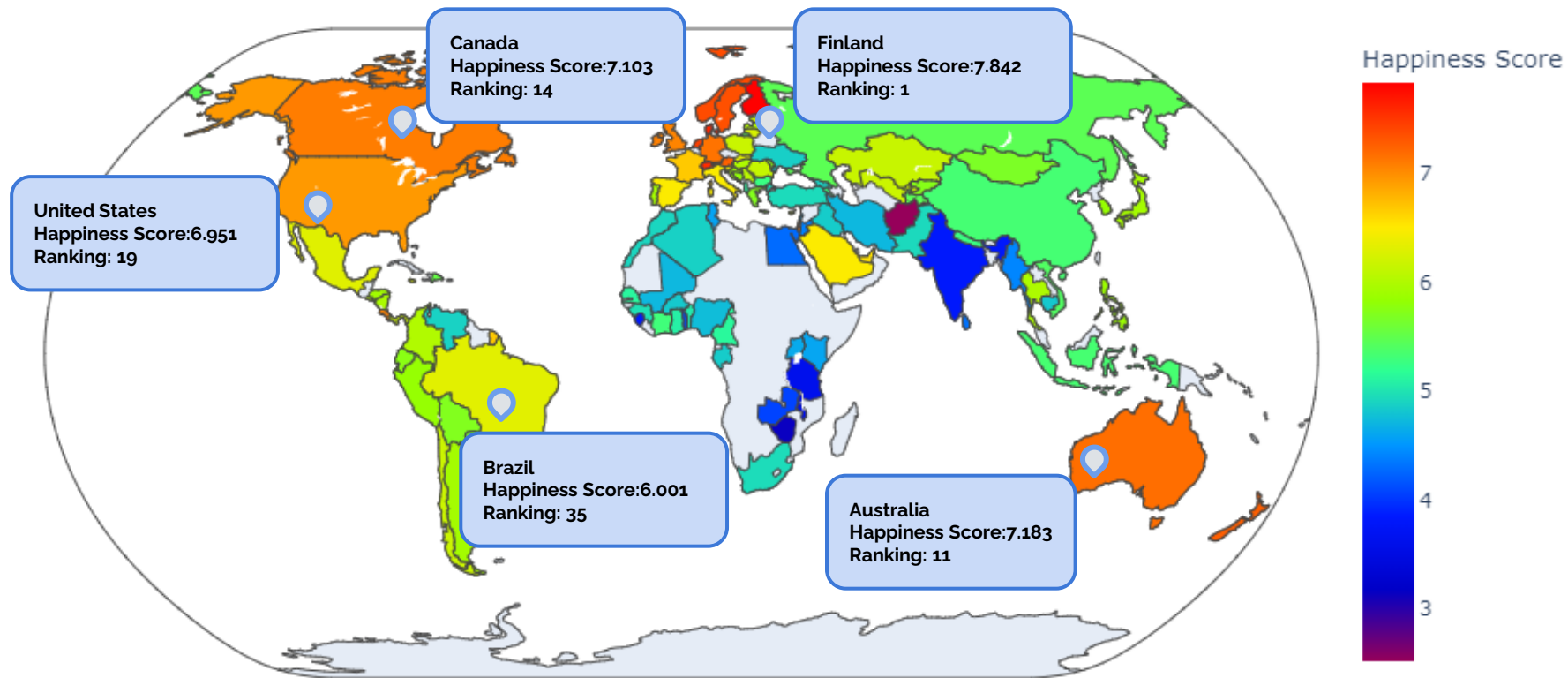
Happiness Scores in 2015



Happiness Scores in 2021



Happiness Scores in 2021



Happiest Countries across years

SWITZERLAND



NORWAY



FINLAND



FINLAND



2016

2018

2020

2015

2017

2019

2021



DENMARK



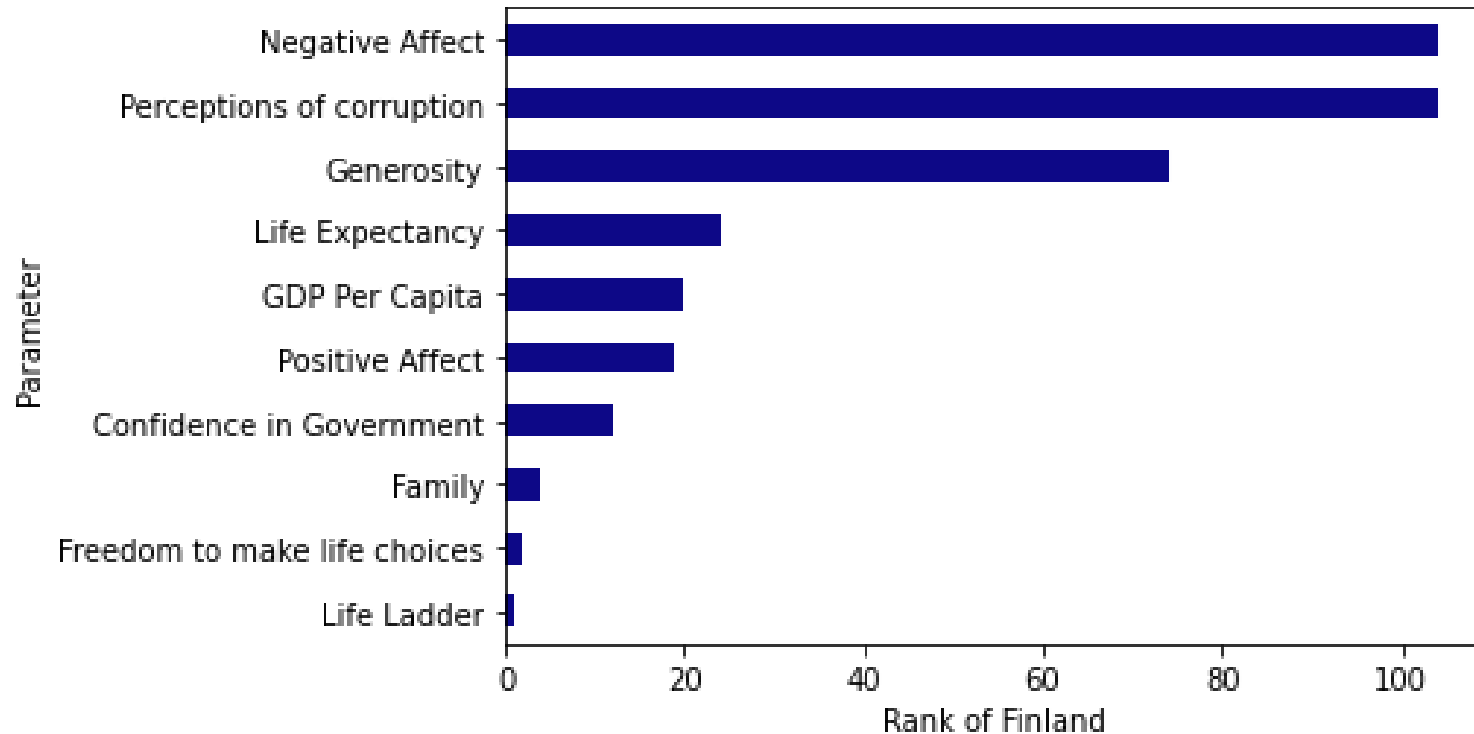
FINLAND



FINLAND

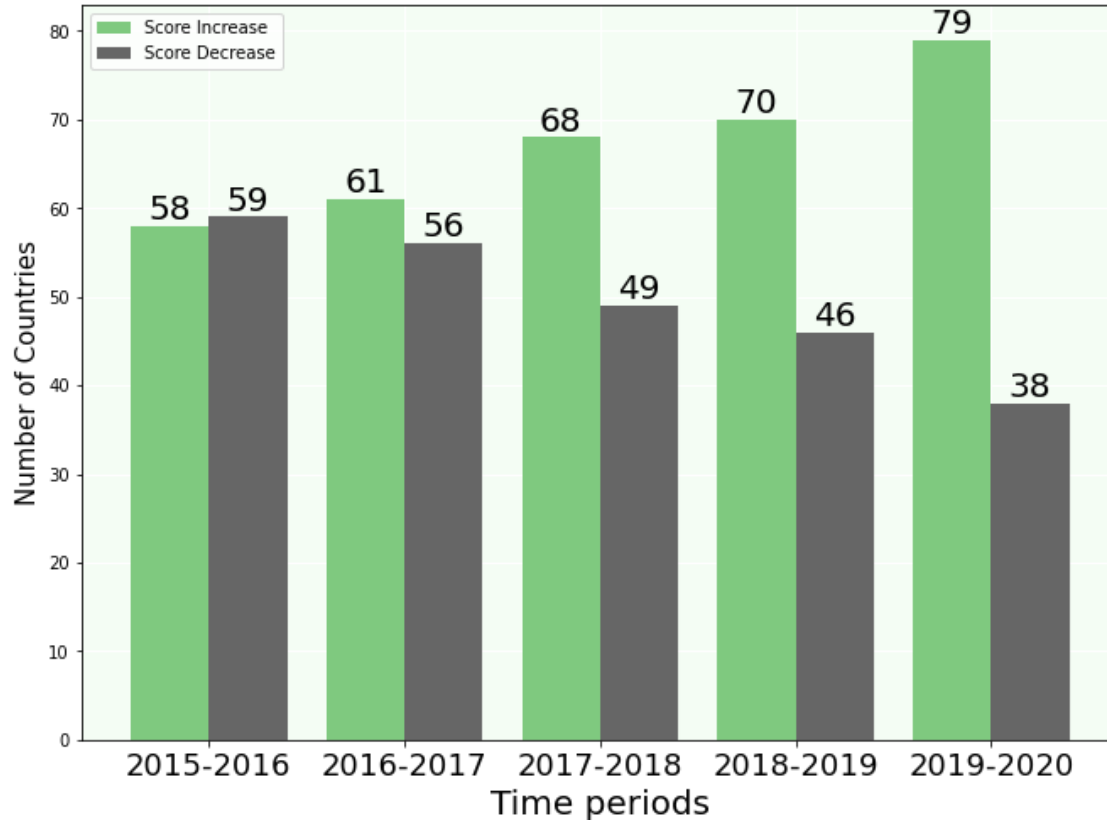
In the past five years, **Finland** has topped the Happiness Rank 4 times.

Secret to Finland's happiness



Happiness in the Era of COVID-19

Increase Vs Decrease in Score Every Year

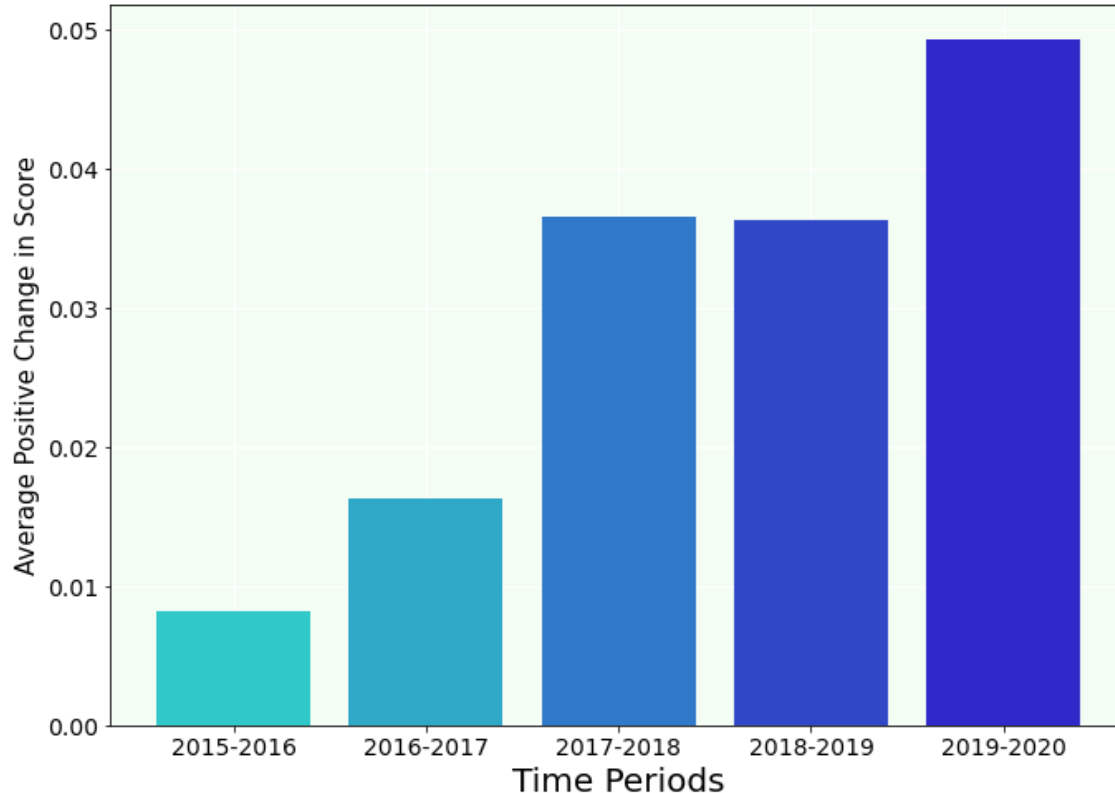


The number of countries experiencing an increase in happiness score grows every year

Even after COVID-19 the happiness score kept increasing among many countries

79 Countries experienced increase in happiness by the end of 2020

Average Increase in Happiness Score



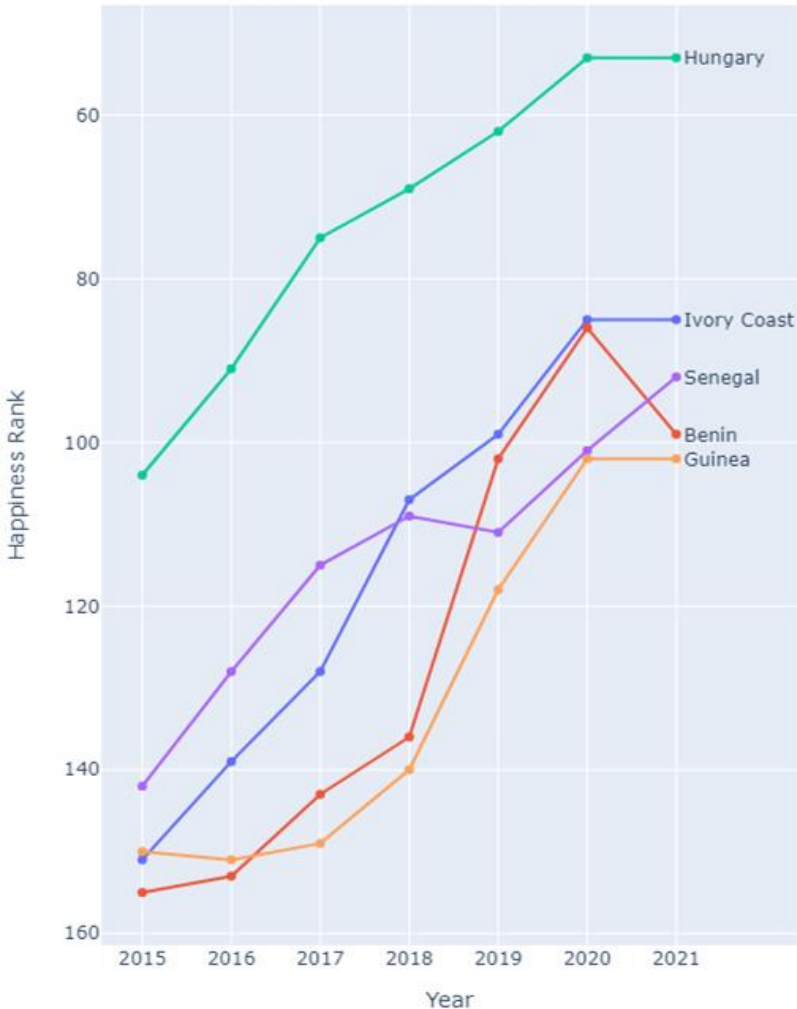
On average change in happiness score has only increased throughout the years

On average there was an increase in happiness during the COVID years

Can mortality rates be a valid factor to accurately determine happiness in the world as a whole?

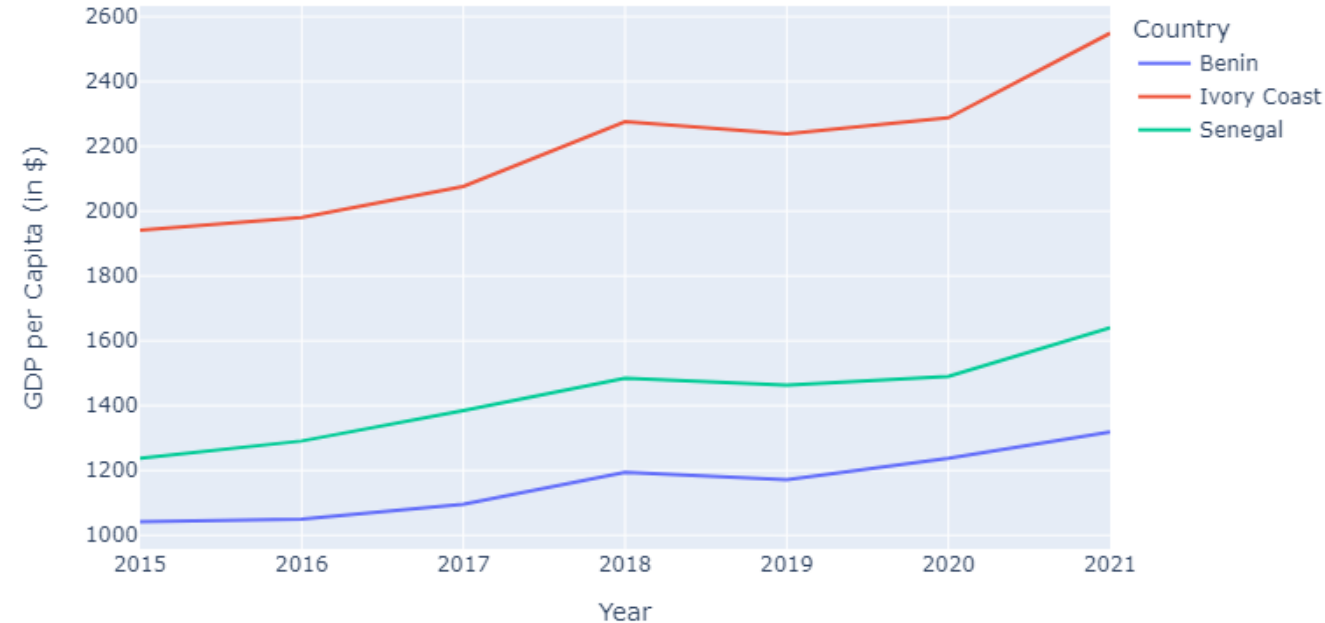
Which countries
experienced the greatest
jump in scores?

Countries with largest jumps



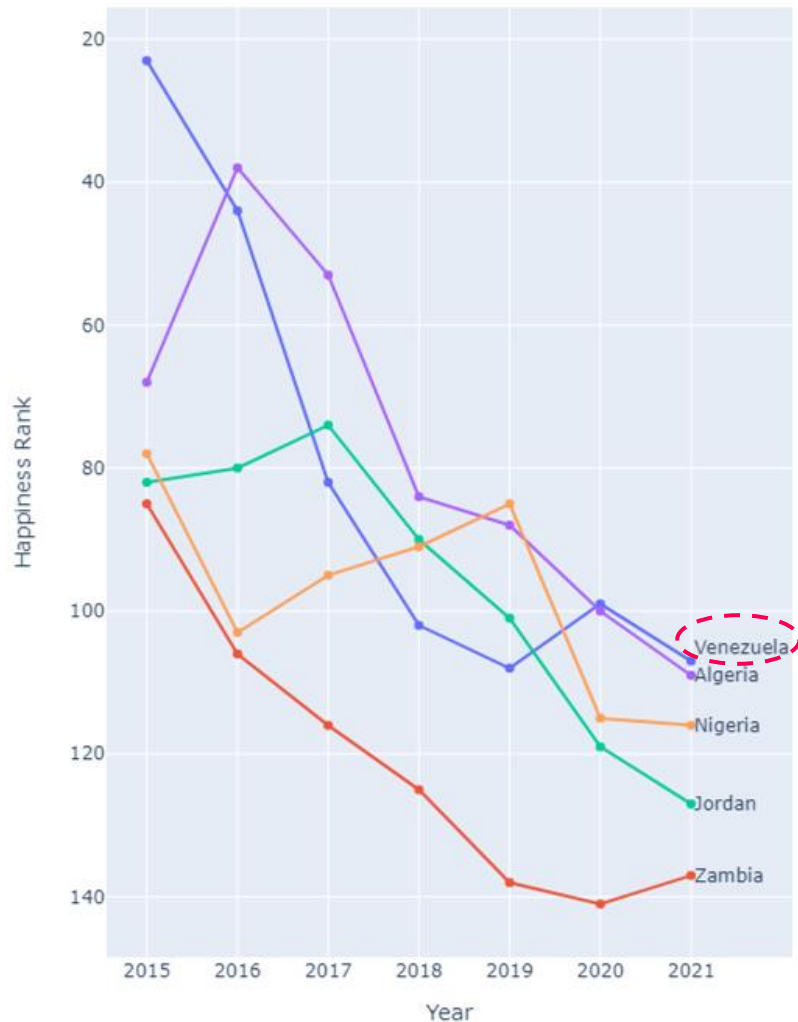
West African countries (**Ivory Coast, Senegal, Benin and Guinea**) were amongst the top 5 countries with largest rank improvements.

Improving economy in West Africa



West Africa has seen significant economic developments since 2015, which can be a cause of the jump in rank.

Countries with greatest dips

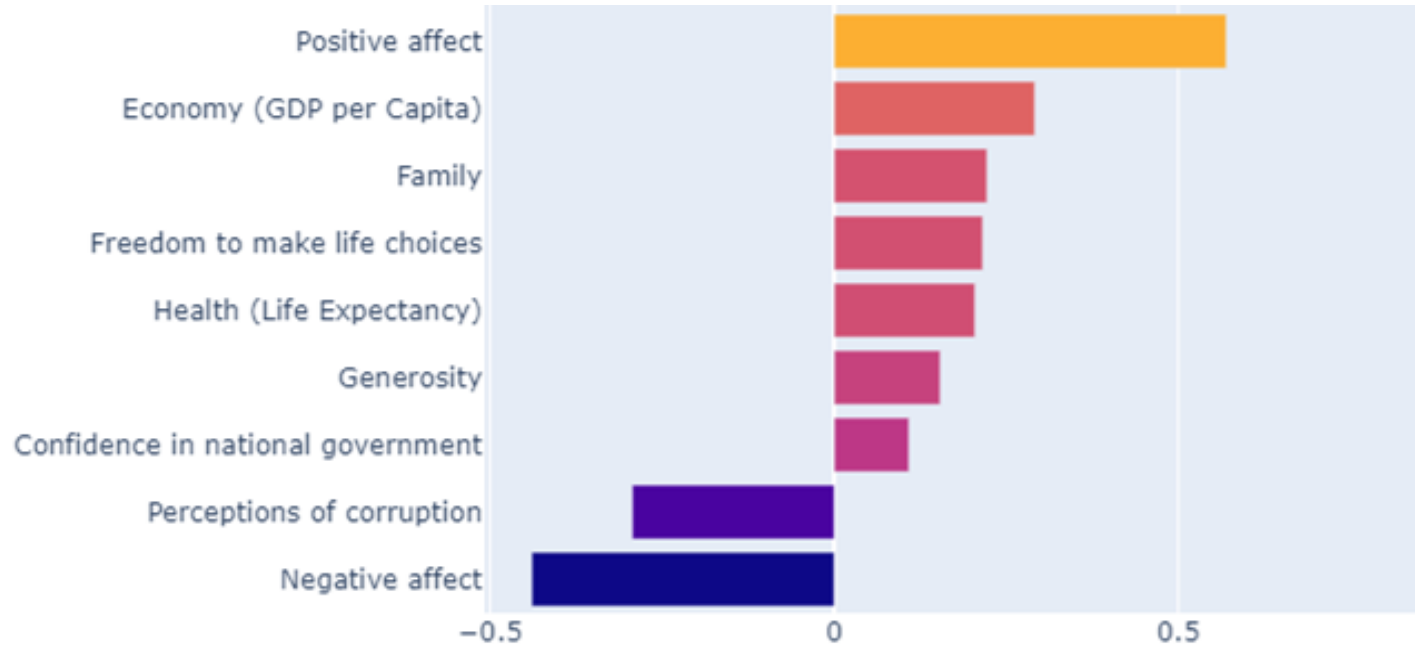


The South American country, **Venezuela** observed a drastic decrease in happiness from being in the top 30 to dropping to the 108th position.

- Since 2015, an economic and political crisis has struck the country

What changed on a common scale in these countries?

Correlation between change in happiness scores and factors



Conclusions

#1

Subjective factors such as Freedom to make life choices, Health and Family govern happiness more as compared to economic factors.

#2

Countries that see a rapid rise or dip in scores experience change in Positive Affect, Economy and Corruption perception primarily.

#3

The pandemic resulted in increased happiness among nations, with the trend continuing in 2021.



Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to measure it right!

Questions?