Does Money Buy Happiness? GDP vs. Happiness Score

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Why GDP and Happiness?



"Happiness is a key measure of societal success, but what drives it?"



"GDP per capita reflects economic strength—does wealthier mean happier?"



Research Question: Is there a significant correlation between GDP per capita and national happiness scores?

World Happiness Report 2019



KEY VARIABLES:



- GDP PER CAPITA



- SCORE(HAPPINESS SCORE)



- SOCIAL SUPPORT



- HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY



- FREEDOM TO MAKE LIFE CHOICES

Our Hypothesis



"We hypothesize that GDP per capita has a significant positive correlation with Happiness Score."



Rationale: Wealth enables better healthcare, education, infrastructure.



Caveat: Is money everything? We'll test it.

How We Tested It

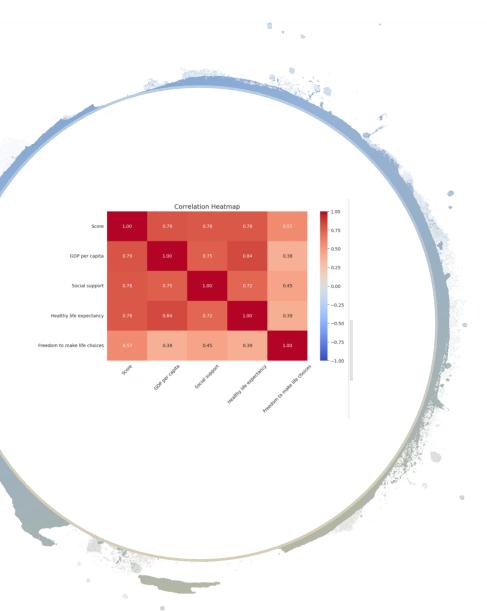
Descriptive statistics Scatter plot (GDP vs. Happiness) Correlation heatmap Linear regression Pearson's r calculation

GDP per capita vs. Happiness Score Regression Line: Score = 3.40 + 2.22×GDP GDP per capita

GDP vs. Happiness

Strong Positive Correlation:

- "As GDP increases, Happiness Score tends to rise (r = 0.79, p < 0.001)."
- Regression equation: Score = 3.40 + 2.22×GDP



Key Findings

• GDP & Happiness:

- Pearson's r = 0.79 (very strong positive correlation).
- R² = 0.63 → GDP explains 63% of happiness variance.

Other Predictors:

- Social Support (r = 0.72).
- Freedom (r = 0.57).

What Does This Mean?



Implications:

Economic growth **may** boost happiness, but isn't the only factor.

Social policies (e.g., healthcare, freedom) also matter.



Limitations:

Correlation ≠ **Causation**: Wealthier nations may invest more in wellbeing.

Cultural bias: Happiness is self-reported.

Final Takeaways

GDP matters, but explains ~63% of happiness.

Policy Insights:

Prioritize both economic growth and social programs.

Future Work:

Compare regions (e.g., Nordic vs. developing nations).

Questions?

- "What other factors do YOU think influence happiness?"
- QR code for github Repo



