Exploring Factors Influencing Global Happiness: A Data Analysis of the World Happiness Report

Happiness Score Map

I. INTRODUCTION

This project delves into the exploration of global happiness by specifically analyzing the "World Happiness Report" dataset for the year 2019. Validated with 4000 upvotes on Kaggle.com, this dataset serves as a comprehensive snapshot of well-being during that particular timeframe. The primary goal is to identify key factors influencing happiness, discern regional variations, and construct a predictive model tailored to the nuances of 2019. By focusing on this specific dataset, the analysis aims to provide targeted insights that contribute to a deeper understanding of the determinants of happiness during that pivotal year.

Analytical questions

My analytical questions revolve around exploring the determinants of happiness. We aim to investigate

What are the key factors that contribute most to happiness scores worldwide?

Are there geographical or regional variations in the significance of different factors in determining happiness?

Can we build a predictive model to estimate happiness scores based on these determinants?

Data

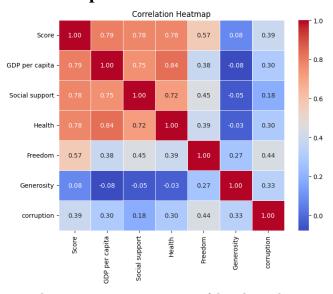
The project utilizes the "World Happiness Report" dataset, consisting of five CSV file (2019), validated with 4000 upvotes on Kaggle.com. This dataset allows a longitudinal analysis of global happiness trends and determinant changes, enhancing its reliability and relevance.

The dataset summarizes the World Happiness Report for 156 countries, presenting overall rank, country names, happiness scores, and key contributing factors such as GDP per capita, social support, health, freedom, generosity, and corruption levels. This data provides a concise yet comprehensive overview of the factors influencing happiness across nations.

	Overall rank	Country	Score	GDP per capita	Social support	Health	Freedom	Generosity	corruption
0		Finland		1.340		0.986			
1									
2		Norway					0.603		
		Iceland							
		Netherlands							
		Rwanda							
		Afghanistan					0.000		
		Central African Republic							
		South Sudan							
156 rows × 9 columns									



Heat map

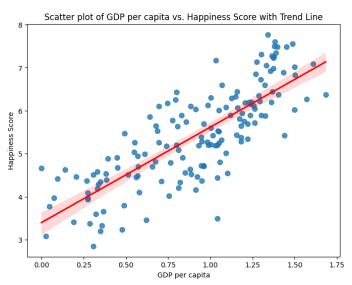


Certainly! Here's a concise summary of the relationships:

- **1. GDP per capita and Score**: Strong positive correlation (0.79), indicating higher GDP per capita is associated with higher happiness scores.
- **2. Social support and Score**: Strong positive correlation (0.78), suggesting higher social support correlates with higher happiness scores.
- **3. Healthy life expectancy and Score**: Positive correlation (exact coefficient not provided), implying that higher healthy life expectancy tends to be associated with higher happiness scores.
- **4. Freedom to make life choices and Score**: Moderate positive correlation (0.58), indicating more freedom is linked to higher happiness scores.

- **5. Generosity and Score**: Weak positive correlation (0.08), suggesting a slight connection between generosity and happiness.
- **6. Perceptions of corruption and Score**: Moderate positive correlation (0.39), suggesting that higher perceptions of corruption are associated with lower happiness scores.

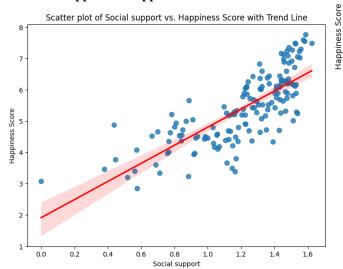
Scatter plots



GDP vs Happiness Score

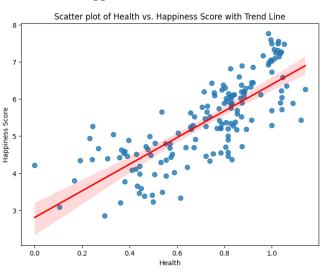
The trend line indicates a positive correlation between GDP per capita and happiness score, implying that countries with higher GDP per capita generally have higher happiness scores. However, the scattered data points around the trend line suggest that there are additional factors influencing happiness beyond just economic prosperity.

Social Support vs Happiness Score



The trend line illustrates an overall positive correlation between social support and happiness scores, indicating that individuals with greater social support tend to have higher happiness scores. The majority of data points are concentrated in the upper right quadrant, signifying that most people experience both high social support and high happiness scores.

Health vs Happiness Score



The trend line indicates a positive correlation between health and happiness scores, implying that nations with better health tend to exhibit higher happiness scores.

Freedom vs Happiness Score

0.1

0.2

0.0

7-6-5-4-3-1

Scatter plot of Freedom vs. Happiness Score with Trend Line

The scatter plot implies that freedom is a significant determinant of happiness. Nations with greater levels of freedom generally exhibit higher happiness scores.

0.3

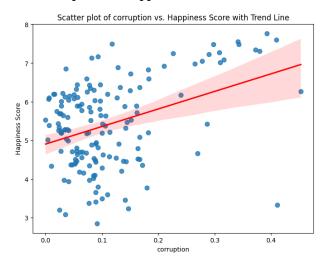
Freedom

0.4

0.5

0.6

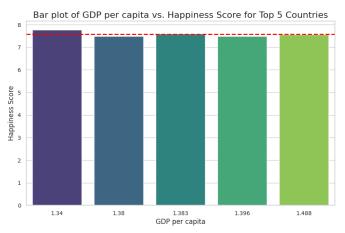
Curruption vs Happiness Score



The trend line illustrates a negative correlation between corruption and happiness scores, indicating that countries with elevated levels of corruption typically experience lower happiness scores. Despite the trend, there is some variability in the data points around the trend line.

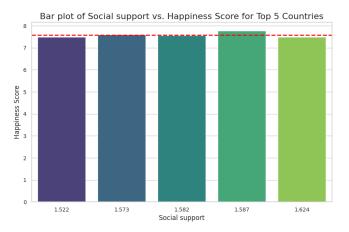
Comparison of variables among the top five countries based on their Happiness Scores.

GDP and Happiness Score of Top 5 Countries



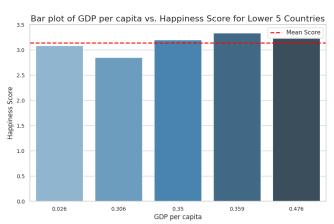
Happier countries often have more money. A quick look shows that places with a higher amount of money (GDP) tend to have happier people. This suggests that having more money contributes a lot to the well-being of citizens.

Social Status and Happiness Score Top 5 Countries



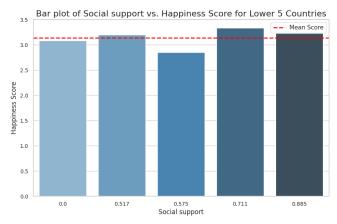
Looking at how social status affects happiness, we see that countries with good social conditions usually have happier people. This includes things like having access to education, healthcare, and fair sharing of income. It seems that when countries have policies that support social progress, it makes people happier.

GDP and Happiness Score Of lower 5 Countries



Nations grappling with lower GDP often experience diminished happiness scores. Economic challenges and constrained financial resources contribute to a sense of dissatisfaction among the population.

Social Statues and Happiness Score Of lower 5 Countries



Countries with lower social status indicators also tend to exhibit lower happiness scores. Inadequate access to education, healthcare, and disparities in income distribution can collectively impact the overall well-being of citizens, contributing to a less content populace within these nations.

Regression Analysis

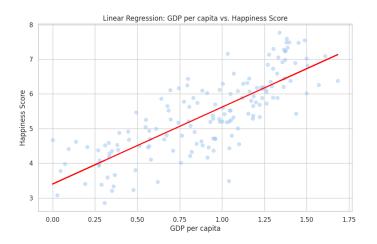
Regression Analysis of Score and Health

OLS <u>Regression</u> Results							
Dep. Variable:		core R	squared:		 0.608		
Model:		OLS A	lj. R-squared:		0.606		
Method:	Least Squ	iares F	statistic:		239.1		
Date:	Sun, 03 Dec	2023 Pi	ob (F-statisti	c):	3.79e-33		
Time:	17:2	29:14 Lo	g-Likelihood:		-164.48		
No. Observations:		156 A	:C:		333.0		
Df Residuals:		154 B	C:		339.1		
Df Model:							
Covariance Type:	nonro	bust					
coe	ef stderr		t P> t	[0.025	0.975]		
const 2.806	68 0.177	15.83	7 0.000	2.457	3.157		
Health 3.585	0.232	15.46	0.000	3.127	4.043		
Omnibus:	·========)	====== 5.324 Dเ	======== ırbin-Watson:	=======	 1.140		
Prob(Omnibus):		0.042 Ja	rque-Bera (JB)		3.543		
Skew:	- ().148 Pi	ob(JB):		0.170		
Kurtosis:	2	2.324 Co	nd. No.		6.41		

According to the findings, the model indicates that 'Health' is an important and reliable predictor of the 'Score.' This means that the health factor has a meaningful impact on determining the overall score. Additionally, the model as a whole fits well, which is evident from the R-squared and F-statistic values. These statistics suggest that the model effectively captures and explains the variation in the data, making it a reliable tool for understanding the relationship between health and the overall score.

Regression Analysis of Score and GDP

OLS Regression Results								
Dep. Variable:		Score	R-squared:			0.630		
Model:		0LS	Adj. R-squ	ared:	0.628			
Method:		st Squares	F-statisti		262.5			
Date:	Sun, 0	3 Dec 2023	Prob (F-st		4.32e-35			
Time:		17:29:14	Log-Likeli	hood:	-159.97			
No. Observations:		156	AIC:			323.9		
Df Residuals:		154	BIC:			330.0		
Df Model:		1						
Covariance Type:		nonrobust						
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]		
const	3.3993	0.135	25.120	0.000	3.132	3.667		
GDP per capita	2.2181	0.137	16.202	0.000	1.948	2.489		
Omnibus:		======== 1.139	======= Durbin-Wat	======= son:		===== 1.378		
Prob(Omnibus):		0.566	Jarque-Ber			1.244		
Skew:		-0.177	Prob(JB):			0.537		
Kurtosis:		2.742	Cond. No.		រ	4.77		
==========				=======	=====±	3=====		



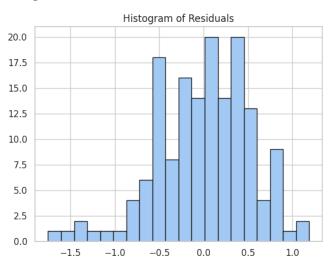
The Analysis indicates a noteworthy positive connection between GDP per capita and happiness scores. In simpler terms, as the GDP per capita of a country goes up, the happiness scores of its citizens also tend to go up.

Regression Analysis of All columns

Dep. Variable:	Dep. Variable:			R-squared:		0.779	
Model:		0LS	Adj. R-squared:		0.770		
Method:	Least Squares Sun, 03 Dec 2023 17:29:15				87.62 2.40e-46 -119.76		
Date:							
Time:							
No. Observations:		156	AIC:		253.5		
Df Residuals:	149 6		BIC:		274.9		
Df Model:							
Covariance Type:	nonrobust						
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975	
const	1.7952	0.211	8.505	0.000	1.378	2.21	
GDP per capita	0.7754	0.218	3.553	0.001	0.344	1.20	
Social support	1.1242	0.237	4.745	0.000	0.656	1.59	
Health	1.0781	0.335	3.223	0.002	0.417	1.73	
Freedom	1.4548	0.375	3.876	0.000	0.713	2.19	
Generosity	0.4898	0.498	0.984	0.327	-0.494	1.47	
corruption	0.9723	0.542	1.793	0.075	-0.099	2.04	
Omnibus:		======== 8.188	======= Durbin-Wat	======= son:	1.648		
Prob(Omnibus):	0.017 -0.498		Jarque-Bera (JB): Prob(JB):		7.971 0.0186		
Skew:							

This model shows that when we consider things like GDP per capita, Social support, Health, Freedom, Generosity, and Corruption together, they help explain a big part of why happiness scores differ ("Score"). This means that these factors combined affect how happy a country is.But, when we look at just one thing at a time, like "Generosity" and "Corruption," it's not as clear how important they are. The uncertainty comes from the p-values linked to these factors, suggesting that individually, their impact on happiness scores might not be very certain.

Histogram of Resduals



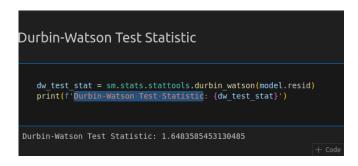
The histogram of residuals in your graph indicates that these residuals are roughly distributed in a normal fashion, centered around a mean of zero. This implies that the model aligns well with the data, suggesting a good fit.

Null Hypothesis (H0): There is no statistically significant influence of the other columns on the score

		Test fo	or Constrai	nts		
=========	:======					======
	coef	std err		P> t	[0.025	0.975]
c0 c1	0.7754 1.1242	0.218 0.237	3.553 4.745	0.001 0.000	0.344 0.656	1.207 1.592

Given that the p-values for c0 and c1 are both less than the typical significance level of 0.05, you would reject the null hypotheses. The rejection of these null hypotheses suggests that the coefficients for c0 and c1 are statistically significantly different from zero, and these predictors are likely to have a significant effect on the dependent variable in your regression model.

Durbin-Watson Test Statistic

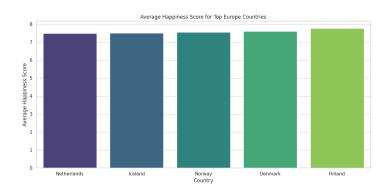


The Durbin-Watson test statistic, around 1.65, indicates a tendency toward positive autocorrelation in the residuals of the regression model as it is less than 2.

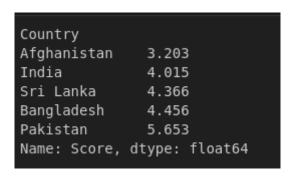
Are there geographical or regional variations in the significance of different factors in determining happiness?

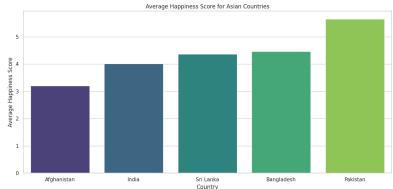
Happiness Score of 5 Europe Countries

Country		
Netherlands	7.488	
Iceland	7.494	
Norway	7.554	
Denmark	7.600	
Finland	7.769	
Name: Score,	dtype: float64	\triangleright

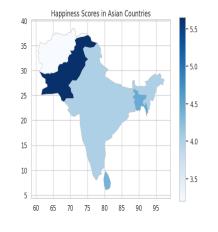


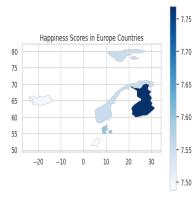
Happiness Score of 5 Asian Countries





Happiness Score map





Geographical or regional variations play a significant role in determining happiness, with distinct priorities observed between Asians and Europeans. Notably, Asians tend to prioritize financial security and freedom, whereas Europeans place a higher emphasis on community

Predictive models

Machine Learning (ML) regression model is employed to predict the 'Score' based on features such as 'GDP per capita', 'Social support', 'Health', and 'Freedom'. The hyperparameters of the ML model are tuned using a grid search, and the best model is evaluated using Mean Squared Error (MSE) and R-squared (R²) metrics.

Linear Regression

Mean Squared Error: 0.42024794847379593 R-squared: 0.5961963009874782

GradientBoostingRegressor

```
Best Hyperparameters: {'learning_rate': 0.1, 'max_depth': 3, 'n_estimators': 50}
Mean Squared Error: 0.3620533913701818
R-squared: 0.6521137123780065
```

SVM Model

Hyperparameters ('C', 'epsilon', 'kernel') represent the best configuration found during a hyperparameter tuning process. The model's performance is assessed using the Mean Squared Error (lower is better) and R-squared (closer to 1 is better). The results suggest a reasonably good fit of the SVM regression model to the data.

Predictions

```
best_model.fit(X_train, y_train)
new_sample_data = np.array([1.092, 1.513, 0.815, 0.311])
new_sample = new_sample_data.reshape(1, -1)
new_prediction = best_model.predict(new_sample)
print("Prediction:", new_prediction[0])
Prediction: 5.673166692727373
```

A new set of sample data (`new_sample_data`) representing features 'GDP per capita', 'Social support', 'Health', and 'Freedom' is created.

The new sample data is reshaped to fit the model's input requirements.

The trained model is used to predict the 'Score' for the new sample.

The predicted 'Score' for the new sample is printed.

Abstract

This report explores the factors influencing happiness scores across countries, utilizing statistical analyses, scatter plots, and regression models. Key findings reveal strong positive correlations between GDP per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, and freedom to make life choices with happiness scores. Meanwhile, generosity and perceptions of corruption exhibit weaker connections. Scatter plots illustrate the relationships visually, highlighting nuances beyond the identified correlations. The top and bottom five countries' comparisons emphasize the impact of GDP and social status on happiness. Regression analyses confirm health and GDP as significant predictors, while combining all factors explains variations in happiness scores. Geographical variations in priorities are evident between Asian and European countries. Lastly, machine learning models, including Linear Regression,

GradientBoostingRegressor, and SVM, provide predictive insights. The report concludes with the application of these models to new sample data, showcasing their ability to estimate happiness scores based on key features.