

# WORLD HAPPINESS



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## BACKGROUND

The World Happiness Report is a global publication initiated by the United Nations to measure and promote happiness as a fundamental aspect of human development. It ranks countries based on their citizens' subjective well-being, assessed through surveys asking individuals to rate their own life satisfaction on a scale from 0 to 10.

The report explores factors contributing to happiness, such as economic prosperity, social support, health, freedom, and generosity. It serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, and individuals, offering insights into the determinants of happiness and pathways to greater well-being.

The World Happiness Report (2021) is particularly relevant as it reflects the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on global happiness levels. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the report highlights resilience and strategies for maintaining or enhancing happiness amidst adversity.

Overall, the World Happiness Report promotes the pursuit of happiness as a central goal of public policy and human development, contributing to a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable world.





## PROBLEM STATEMENT

The objective of this data storytelling project is to analyze and communicate insights from the World Happiness Report (2021) dataset. The report provides a comprehensive assessment of global happiness levels and explores factors influencing well-being across different countries and regions. By delving into the data, the aim is to uncover key trends, disparities, and drivers of happiness, shedding light on the factors that contribute to overall life satisfaction and subjective well-being. Through effective storytelling, the project seeks to convey meaningful insights to a diverse audience, fostering greater awareness and understanding of the importance of happiness in shaping human development and societal progress.



# DATA SET

World Happiness Report (2021)



# EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

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## 10 Happiest Countries in the World

Nine of the happiest countries are in Europe

Best possible life = 10

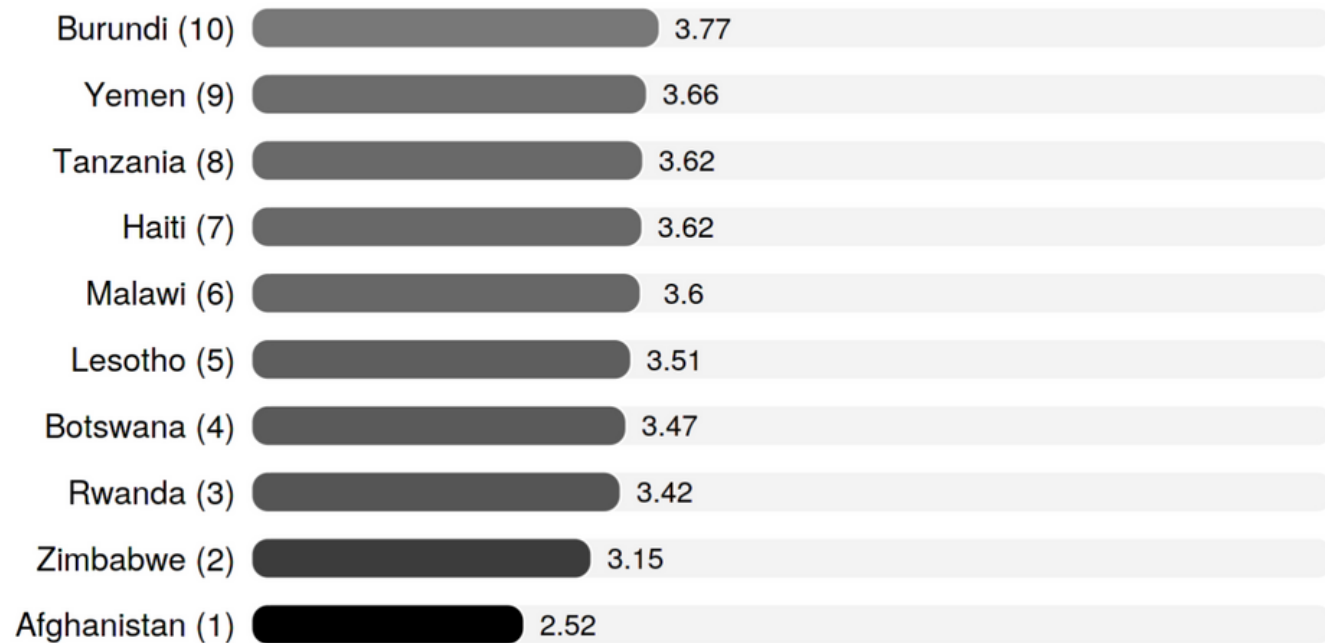


Source: The World Happiness Report 2021

## 10 Saddest Countries in the World

Countries torn by poverty and war

Best possible life = 10



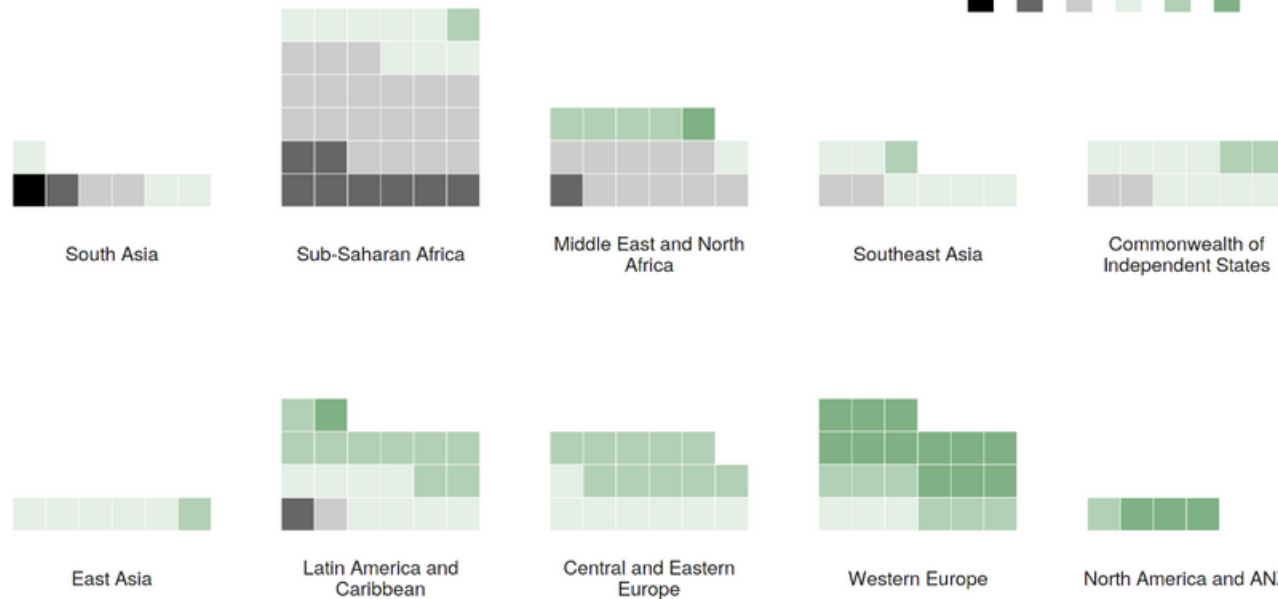
Source: The World Happiness Report 2021

# HAPPINESS UNDER COVID-19

## Happiness by World Region

Happiest regions: North America and Western Europe.

Green indicates more happiness

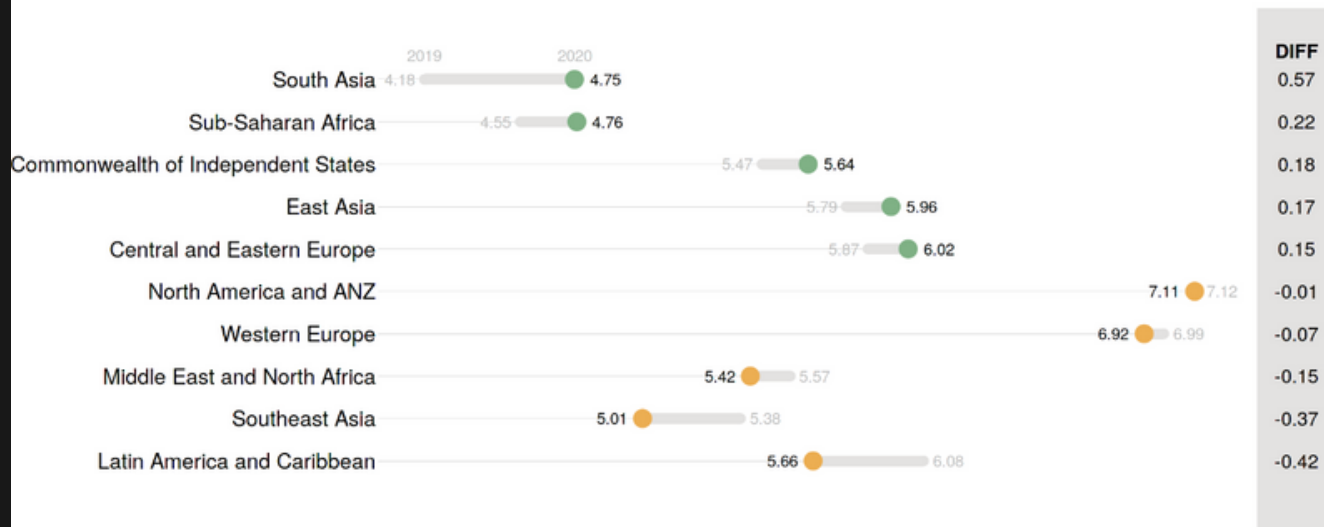


1 square = a country

Source: The World Happiness Report 2021

### Happiness: from pre-Covid (2019) to amidst-Covid (2020)

Despite covid, some regions see increases in happiness.

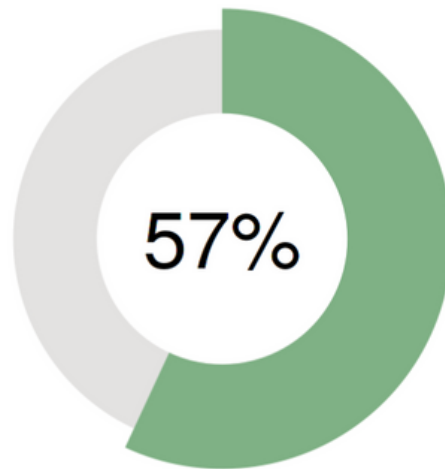


Source: World Happiness Report (2021)

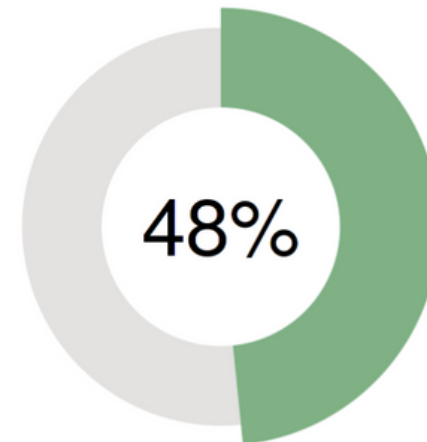


### Percent of countries with increased happiness

2018 -> 2019



2019 -> 2020

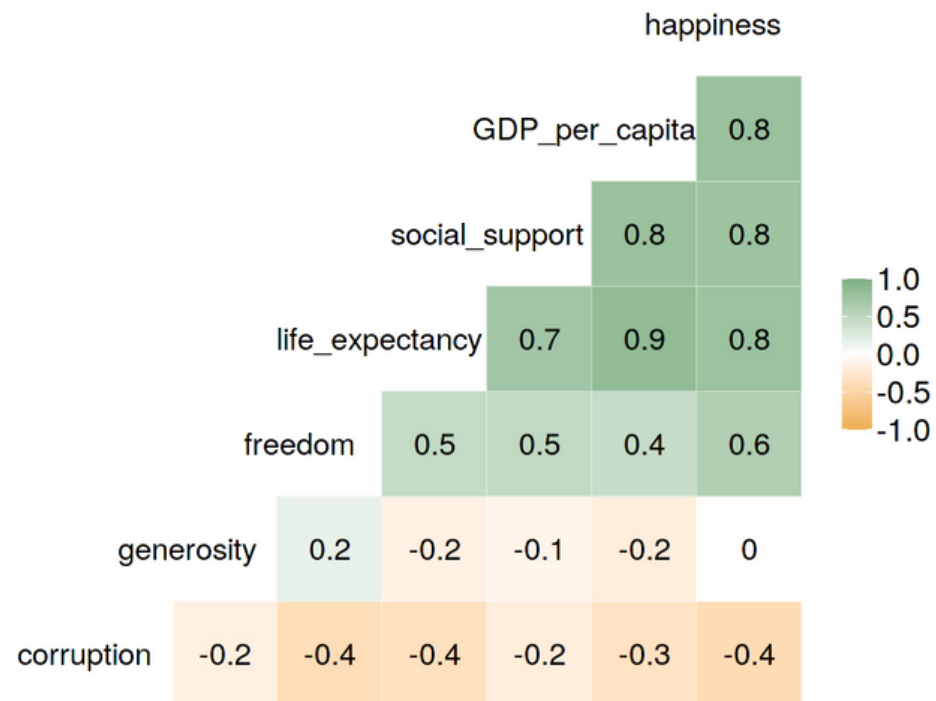


Source: World Happiness Report (2021)



## Correlation Matrix

Happiness most strongly correlates with (1) wealth (GDP)  
(2) health, (3) social support, and (4) freedom



## Insights

1. The happiness regions in the world are North America and Western Europe.
2. Despite Covid-19, about half of the countries in the world see an increase in happiness from 2019 to 2020.
3. Three top drivers of happiness:
  - (1) Wealth
  - (2) Health
  - (3) Social support

## Six major factors to explain happiness:

- GDP per capita:
  - The statistics of GDP per capita (variable name gdp) in purchasing power parity (PPP) at constant 2017 international dollar prices are from the October 14, 2020 update of the World Development Indicators (WDI)
- Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE)
  - Healthy life expectancies at birth are based on the data extracted from the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Health Observatory data repository
- Social support
  - National average of the binary responses (either 0 or 1) to the GWP question "If you were in trouble, do you have relatives or friends you can count on to help you whenever you need them, or not?"
- Freedom to make life choices
  - National average of responses to the GWP question "Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your freedom to choose what you do with your life?"
- Generosity
  - The residual of regressing national average of response to the GWP question "Have you donated money to a charity in the past month?" on GDP per capita.
- Corruption Perception
  - The measure is the national average of the survey responses to two questions in the GWP: "Is corruption widespread throughout the government or not?" and "Is corruption widespread within businesses or not?" The overall perception is just the average of the two 0-or-1 responses. In case the perception of government corruption is missing, we use the perception of business corruption as the overall perception.
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THANK YOU!

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