

# K Means Clustering

OECD Better Life Index

# Project Brief

## Problem statement

*“We want to maximise the Life Satisfaction across the OECD+ set of countries, reviewing what issues are potentially causing lags in Life Satisfaction worldwide.”*

## Defining ‘Life Satisfaction’

*“The indicator considers people's evaluation of their life as a whole. It is a weighted-sum of different response categories based on people's rates of their current life relative to the best and worst possible lives for them on a scale from 0 to 10, using the Cantril Ladder (known also as the "Self-Anchoring Striving Scale").”*

← Measure	Value																					
→ Indicator	Housing		Income		Jobs				Community		Education		Environment		Civic engagement		Health		Life Satisfaction		Feel safe walk alone at night	
	Dwellings without basic facilities 1	Housing expenditure 1	Rooms per person 1	Household net adjusted disposable income 1	Household net wealth 1	Labour market insecurity 1	Employment rate 1	Long-term unemployment rate 1	Personal earnings 1	Quality of support network 1	Educational attainment 1	Student skills 1	Years in education 1	Air pollution 1	Water quality 1	Stakeholder engagement for developing regulations 1	Voter turnout 1	Life expectancy 1	Self-reported health 1	Life satisfaction 1		
	Percentage	Percentage	Ratio	US Dollar	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage	US Dollar	Percentage	Percentage	Average score	Years	Micrograms per cubic metre	Percentage	Average score	Percentage	Years	Percentage	Average score		Percentage
Unit	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	▲ ▼	
→ Country																						
Mexico	25.9	17.8	1.1	16 269	..	4	59	0.1	16 230	77	42	416	15	20.3	75	3.2	63	75.1	66	6		
Netherlands	0.1	19.6	2	34 984	248 599	2.5	78	0.9	58 828	94	81	502	19	12.2	91	2.6	79	82.2	75	7.5		
New Zealand	..	19.7	2.4	39 024	514 162	4.5	77	0.4	45 269	95	81	503	18	6	85	2.5	82	82.1	86	7.3		
Norway	0	17.7	2.1	39 144	268 358	2.8	75	0.9	55 780	96	82	497	18	6.7	98	2.2	78	83	75	7.3		
Poland	2.3	21.2	1.1	23 675	233 221	5	69	0.6	32 527	94	93	513	18	22.8	82	2.6	68	78	60	6.1		
Portugal	0.9	19.6	1.7	24 877	255 303	8.1	69	2.3	28 410	87	55	492	17	8.3	89	1.5	49	81.8	50	5.8		
Slovak Republic	1.5	27.4	1.1	21 149	171 425	8.8	68	3	23 619	95	92	469	16	18.5	81	3	66	77.8	65	6.5		
Slovenia	0.2	18.2	1.6	25 250	233 286	5.9	71	1.9	41 445	95	90	504	18	17	93	2.5	53	81.6	67	6.5		
Spain	0.3	21.7	1.9	27 155	366 534	15.8	62	5	37 922	93	63	..	18	10	76	1.8	72	83.9	75	6.5		
Sweden	0	20.1	1.7	33 730	..	4.4	75	1	47 020	94	84	503	20	5.8	97	2	87	83.2	76	7.3		
Switzerland	0	21.4	1.9	39 697	..	..	80	1.7	64 824	94	89	498	17	10.1	96	2.3	45	84	81	7.5		
Turkey	4.9	18.9	1	..	..	13	48	3.3	..	85	42	462	19	27.1	62	1.5	86	78.6	67	4.9		
United Kingdom	0.5	23.2	2	33 049	524 422	3.3	75	0.9	47 147	93	82	503	17	10.1	82	3.1	68	81.3	73	6.8		
United States	0.1	18.3	2.4	51 147	684 500	4.2	67	0.5	69 392	94	92	495	17	7.7	88	3.1	65	78.9	88	7		
OECD - Total	3	20.3	1.7	30 490	323 960	5.1	66	1.3	49 165	91	79	498	18	14	84	2.1	69	81	68	6.7		
Non-OECD Economies	Brazil	6.7	..	..	..	..	57	..	..	83	57	400	16	11.7	70	2.2	80	75.9	..	6.1		
	Russia	13.8	17.4	1	19 546	..	70	1.1	..	89	95	481	16	11.8	62	..	68	73.2	43	5.5		
	South Africa	35.9	18.1	..	9 338	..	39	17.9	..	89	48	..	..	28.5	72	..	66	64.2	..	4.9		

# Summary of methodology

- Using a K Means Clustering Algorithm to Group common countries together.
- Evaluating clusters relative to their 'Life Satisfaction' Score.
- Exploring why Countries have been grouped together, and what common issues may be lowering their Life Satisfaction Score.



# Problem handling null values

1) Ignore rows - Not viable due to the size of data set (40 Rows)

2) Impute values:

- a) Take Average of the dataset - outlier sensitive (countries like Mexico, South Africa and Russia have significant outlier values)
- b) KNN Classification - attempted a classification, but end result did not accurately model which countries are most like one another once tested.
- c) Replace Null with a '0' value - *taken as least worst option*

Housing -  
Dwellings  
without  
basic  
facilities  
(%)

Housing -  
Housing  
expenditure  
(%)

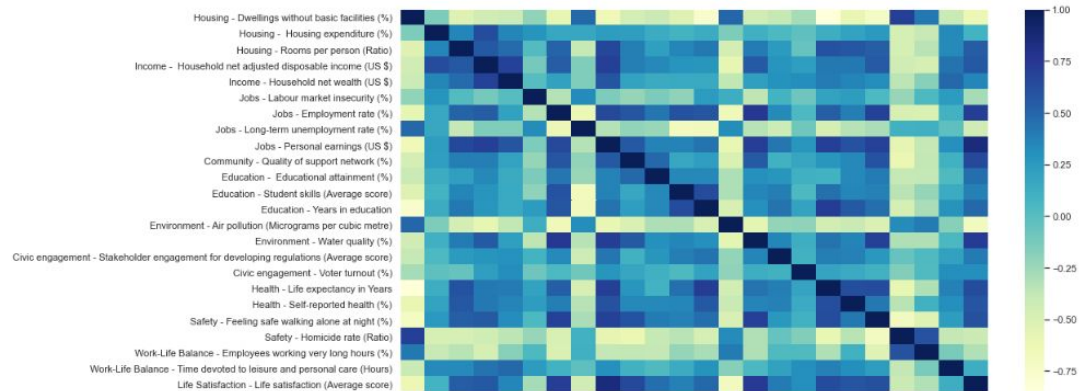
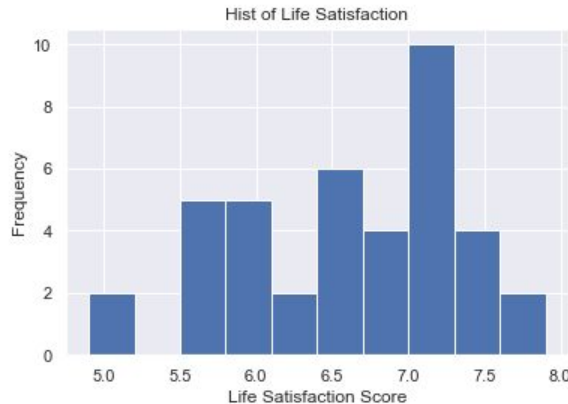
Housing -  
Rooms  
per  
person  
(Ratio)

Hc

Country			
Finland	0.4	23.1	1.9
Iceland	0	..	1.6
Denmark	0.5	23.3	1.9
Netherlands	0.1	19.6	2
Switzerland	0	21.4	1.9
Luxembourg	0.1	20.7	2
Germany	0.1	20	1.8
New Zealand	..	19.7	2.4
Norway	0	17.7	2.1
Sweden	0	20.1	1.7

# Exploratory Analysis

- Reviewed distribution of life satisfaction scores, general positive skew to the right.
- And potential correlations between Life Satisfaction to be reviewed after clustering.
- Economic features around Income, Wealth and Employment highly correlated to Satisfaction Score



# Creating the model: K Means cluster

- Once dataset cleaned, assigned dataframe to X, ensured values were scaled and initiated the K Means model.
- Confirmed the K value I wanted (after some trial and error).
- Assigned the clustering labels to the new dataframe and exported as a final excel file.

```
In [42]: df.isnull().values.any()
```

```
Out[42]: False
```

```
In [45]: X = df
```

```
In [46]: scaler = StandardScaler()
```

```
X_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X)
```

```
In [135]: km = KMeans(n_clusters=5, random_state=1).fit(X_scaled)
```

```
km
```

```
Out[135]: KMeans(n_clusters=5, random_state=1)
```

```
In [136]: km.labels_
```

```
Out[136]: array([0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 2, 2,  
                2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4])
```

```
In [137]: df_two["cluster"] = km.labels_  
df = df_two.sort_values(['cluster'],ascending=True)  
df
```

# Challenges in confirming the correct K value

- Originally used the 'Elbow Technique' as a guide, result recommended a K value of 3.
- However, clusters appeared to be too homogenous with Income/Wealth levels having too-high a weighting.
- After experimentation, chose a K-Value of 5.
- Higher number of clusters revealed better insights, despite size of dataset.

```
In [25]: k_rng = range(1,10)
sse = []

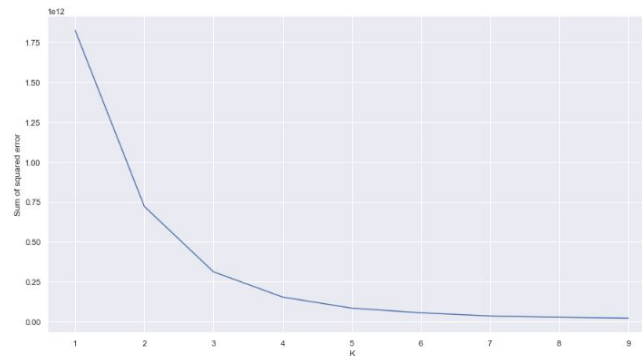
for k in k_rng:
    km = KMeans(n_clusters=k)
    km.fit(X)
    sse.append(km.inertia_)
```

```
In [26]: sse
```

```
Out[26]: [1822848917690.0477,
721141412679.2717,
311697809692.35516,
153682349464.84097,
84238273985.72629,
54986334175.54271,
35150924885.46868,
36983418898.114277,
21862715375.566452]
```

```
In [27]: plt.xlabel('k')
plt.ylabel('sum of squared error')
plt.plot(k_rng,sse)
```

```
Out[27]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x253c76b8cd0>]
```





# Results Overview - Clusters Vs. Life Satisfaction Score

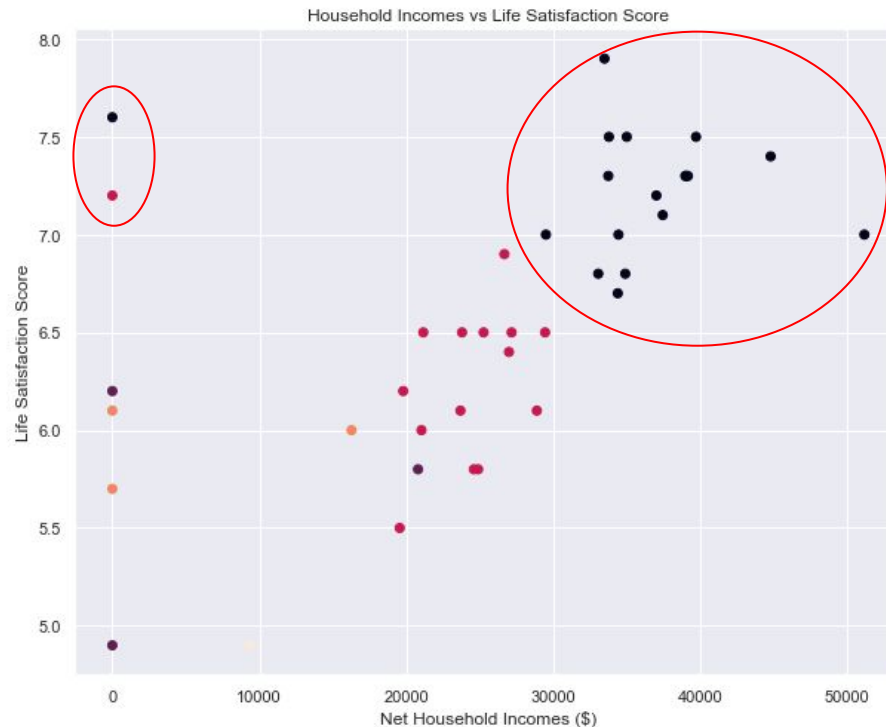
Country	Housing - A	Housing - B	Housing - C	Income - A	Income - B	Jobs - A	Jobs - B	Jobs - C	Jobs - D	Communi	Educator	Educator	Educator	Environm	Environm	Civic eng	Civic eng	Health - U	Health - S	Safety - F	Safety - H	Work-Life	Work-Life	Life Satis	cluster
Finland	0.4	23.1	1.9	33471	230032	2.2	72	1.2	46230	96	91	516	20	5.5	97	2.2	69	82.1	68	88	1.2	3.6	15.17	7.9	0
Iceland	0	0	1.6	0	0	1	78	0.7	67488	98	76	481	19	6.4	97	2.1	81	83.2	77	85	0.3	11.7	0	7.6	0
Denmark	0.5	23.3	1.9	33774	149864	4.5	74	0.9	58430	95	82	501	19	10	93	2	85	81.5	70	85	0.5	1.1	0	7.5	0
Netherlands	0.1	19.6	2	34984	248599	2.5	78	0.9	58828	94	81	502	19	12.2	91	2.6	79	82.2	75	83	0.6	0.3	15.45	7.5	0
Switzerland	0	21.4	1.9	39697	0	0	80	1.7	64824	94	89	498	17	10.1	96	2.3	45	84	81	86	0.3	0.4	0	7.5	0
Luxembourg	0.1	20.7	2	44773	941162	2.2	67	1.7	65854	91	74	477	15	10	85	1.7	90	82.7	72	87	0.2	2.8	0	7.4	0
Germany	0.1	20	1.8	38971	304317	1.4	77	1.2	53745	90	86	500	18	12	91	1.8	76	81.4	66	76	0.4	3.9	15.62	7.3	0
Sweden	0	20.1	1.7	33730	0	4.4	75	1	47020	94	84	503	20	5.8	97	2	87	83.2	76	79	1.1	0.9	0	7.3	0
New Zealand	0	19.7	2.4	39024	514162	4.5	77	0.4	45269	95	81	503	18	6	85	2.5	82	82.1	86	66	1.3	14	14.87	7.3	0
Norway	0	17.7	2.1	39144	268358	2.8	75	0.9	55780	96	82	497	18	6.7	98	2.2	78	83	75	93	0.6	1.4	15.67	7.3	0
Austria	0.8	20.8	1.6	37001	309637	2.3	72	1.3	53132	92	86	491	17	12.2	92	1.3	76	82	71	86	0.5	5.3	14.51	7.2	0
Israel	0	0	1.2	0	0	4.6	67	0.2	39322	95	88	465	16	19.7	77	2.5	67	82.9	74	80	1.5	14.1	0	7.2	2
Australia	0	19.4	0	37433	528768	3.1	73	1	55206	93	84	499	20	6.7	92	2.7	92	83	85	67	0.9	12.5	14.36	7.1	0
Ireland	0.2	20.6	2.1	29488	370341	2.6	68	1.2	49474	96	85	505	18	7.8	80	1.3	63	82.8	84	76	0.5	4.7	14.54	7	0
Canada	0.2	22.9	2.6	34421	478240	3.8	70	0.5	55342	93	92	517	17	7.1	90	2.9	68	82.1	89	78	1.2	3.3	14.57	7	0
United States	0.1	18.3	2.4	51147	684500	4.2	67	0.5	69392	94	92	495	17	7.7	88	3.1	65	78.9	88	78	6	10.4	14.57	7	0
Czech Repub	0.5	23.4	1.5	26664	0	2.3	74	0.6	29885	96	94	495	18	17	89	1.6	62	79.3	62	77	0.7	4.5	0	6.9	2
Belgium	0.7	20	2.1	34884	447607	2.4	65	2.3	54327	90	80	500	19	12.8	79	2	88	82.1	74	56	1.1	4.3	15.52	6.8	0
United Kingd	0.5	23.2	2	33049	524422	3.3	75	0.9	47147	93	82	503	17	10.1	82	3.1	68	81.3	73	78	0.2	10.8	14.94	6.8	0
France	0.5	20.7	1.8	34375	298639	3.1	65	2.9	45581	94	81	494	17	11.4	78	2.1	75	82.9	67	74	0.4	7.7	16.2	6.7	0
Estonia	5.7	17	1.7	23784	188627	5.4	74	1.2	30720	95	91	526	18	5.9	86	2.7	64	78.8	57	79	1.9	2.2	14.98	6.5	2
Slovak Repub	1.5	27.4	1.1	21149	171425	8.8	68	3	23619	95	92	469	16	18.5	81	3	66	77.8	65	76	0.8	4.2	0	6.5	2
Italy	0.6	22.5	1.4	29431	295020	8.6	58	4.8	37769	89	63	477	17	15.9	77	2.5	73	83.6	73	73	0.5	3.3	16.47	6.5	2
Spain	0.3	21.7	1.9	27155	366534	15.8	62	5	37922	93	63	0	18	10	76	1.8	72	83.9	75	80	0.7	2.5	15.75	6.5	2
Slovenia	0.2	18.2	1.6	25250	233286	5.9	71	1.9	41445	95	90	504	18	17	93	2.5	53	81.6	67	91	0.4	5.6	0	6.5	2
Lithuania	11.8	18.4	1.5	26976	182039	0	72	2.5	31811	89	94	480	18	10.5	83	2.4	57	76.4	46	62	2.5	1	0	6.4	2
Chile	9.4	18.4	1.9	0	135787	7	56	0	26729	88	67	438	17	23.4	62	1.3	47	80.6	60	41	2.4	7.7	0	6.2	1
Latvia	11.2	20.8	1.2	19783	79245	6.3	72	2.2	29876	92	89	487	18	12.7	83	2.2	55	75.5	47	72	3.7	1.6	0	6.2	2
Japan	6.4	21.8	1.9	28872	294735	2.7	77	0.8	38515	89	0	520	16	13.7	87	1.4	53	84.4	37	77	0.2	0	14.1	6.1	2
Poland	2.3	21.2	1.1	23675	233221	5	69	0.6	32527	94	93	513	18	22.8	82	2.6	68	78	60	71	0.5	4.2	14.68	6.1	2
Brazil	6.7	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	0	83	57	400	16	11.7	70	2.2	80	75.9	0	45	19	5.6	0	6.1	3
Hungary	3.5	19.9	1.4	21026	150296	3.8	70	1.2	25409	94	86	479	16	16.7	81	1.2	70	76.4	58	74	0.9	1.5	15.08	6	2
Mexico	25.9	17.8	1.1	16269	0	4	59	0.1	16230	77	42	416	15	20.3	75	3.2	63	75.1	66	42	26.8	27	0	6	3
Greece	0.4	21.8	1.2	20791	148323	21.7	56	10.8	27207	78	76	453	19	14.5	67	1.8	58	81.7	79	69	1	4.5	15.03	5.8	1
Korea	2.5	14.7	1.5	24590	362340	2.9	66	0	41960	80	89	520	17	27.3	82	2.9	77	83.3	34	82	0.8	0	14.83	5.8	2
Portugal	0.9	19.6	1.7	24877	255303	8.1	69	2.3	28410	87	55	492	17	8.3	89	1.5	49	81.8	50	83	0.7	5.6	0	5.8	2
Colombia	12.3	0	1	0	0	0	58	1.1	0	80	59	406	14	22.6	82	1.4	53	76.7	80	50	23.1	23.7	0	5.7	3
Russia	13.8	17.4	1	19546	0	0	70	1.1	0	89	95	481	16	11.8	62	0	68	73.2	43	64	4.8	0.1	0	5.5	2
Turkey	4.9	18.9	1	0	0	13	48	3.3	0	85	42	462	19	27.1	62	1.5	86	78.6	67	59	1	25	14.61	4.9	1
South Africa	35.9	18.1	0	9338	0	0	39	17.9	0	89	48	0	0	28.5	72	0	66	64.2	0	40	13.7	15.4	0	4.9	4

# Results Overview - Cluster Means

Cluster	Housing - C	Housing - I	Housing - R	Income - C	Income - H	Jobs - Labo	Jobs - Emp	Jobs - Long	Jobs - Pers	Communit	Education - C	Education - H	Education - R	Environme	Environme	Civic engag	Civic engag	Health - Lif	Health - Se	Safety - Fe	Safety - Ho	Work-Life	Work-Life	Life Satisfa
0.00	0.23	19.53	1.88	34964.78	349924.89	2.79	72.67	1.18	55170.50	93.78	83.78	499.00	18.06	8.92	89.50	2.22	75.94	82.25	76.50	78.94	0.96	5.51	10.89	7.23
1.00	4.90	19.70	1.37	6930.33	94703.33	13.90	53.33	4.70	17978.67	83.67	61.67	451.00	18.33	21.67	63.67	1.53	63.67	80.30	68.67	56.33	1.47	12.40	9.88	5.63
2.00	4.08	18.93	1.45	22851.87	187471.40	5.35	69.27	1.83	31279.33	91.47	78.80	460.53	17.13	15.19	81.87	2.05	63.60	79.79	56.53	76.07	1.37	3.36	7.06	6.30
3.00	14.97	5.93	0.70	5423.00	0.00	1.33	58.00	0.40	5410.00	80.00	52.67	407.33	15.00	18.20	75.67	2.27	65.33	75.90	48.67	45.67	22.97	18.77	0.00	5.93
4.00	35.90	18.10	0.00	9338.00	0.00	0.00	39.00	17.90	0.00	89.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	28.50	72.00	0.00	66.00	64.20	0.00	40.00	13.70	15.40	0.00	4.90

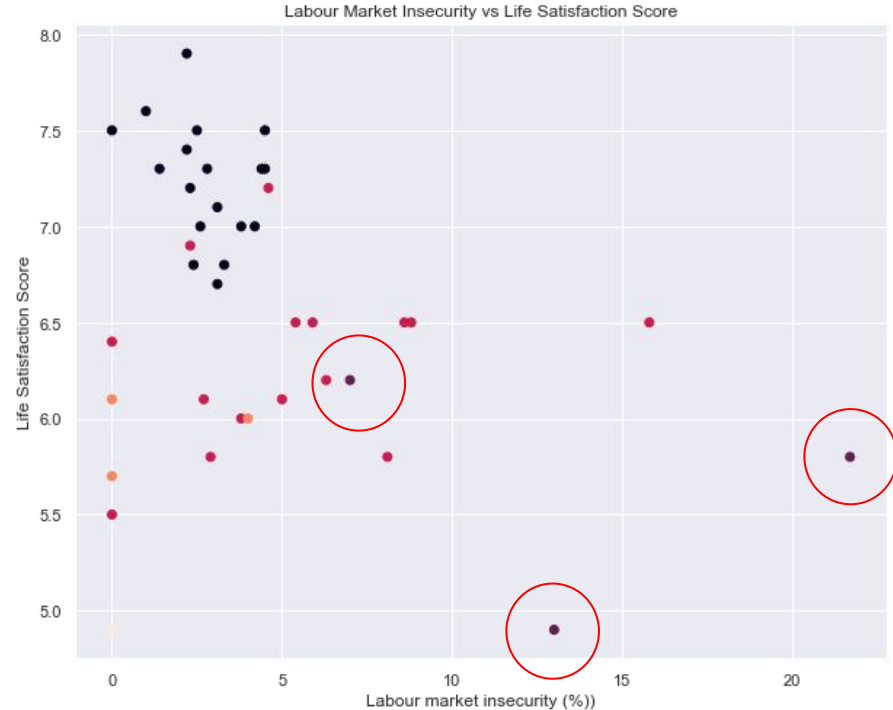
## Cluster [0] Developed / Rich Economies with high income, wealth and employment

- The cluster we would ideally like everyone to be - *Highest Life Satisfaction*, with a clear distinction between them and the other countries.
- Cluster outperformed nearly all others across key index points (including: income, wealth and employment).
- Two outliers who has a *null* Income level, Iceland which was correctly classified into [0], and below this: Israel.
- Made up of western and northern European countries + North America.



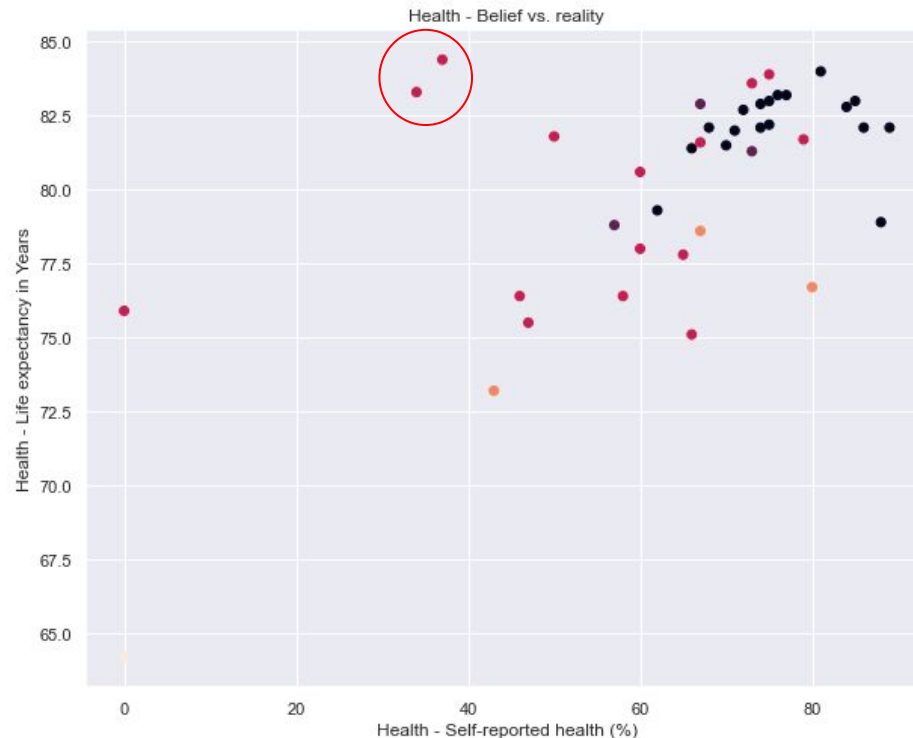
## Cluster [1] Chile, Turkey and Greece (Outlier States?)

- This cluster groups together Turkey, Greece and Chile.
- Cluster grouped together due to sharing a high-labour market insecurity rate, coupled with a high Housing expenditure (%), and second highest air pollution.
- Chile may have been misclassified here, as its labour market security is generally stronger. However its Housing Expenditure % and pollution level is concurrent with the others.
- Greece and Turkey seem more comparable across the majority of features.



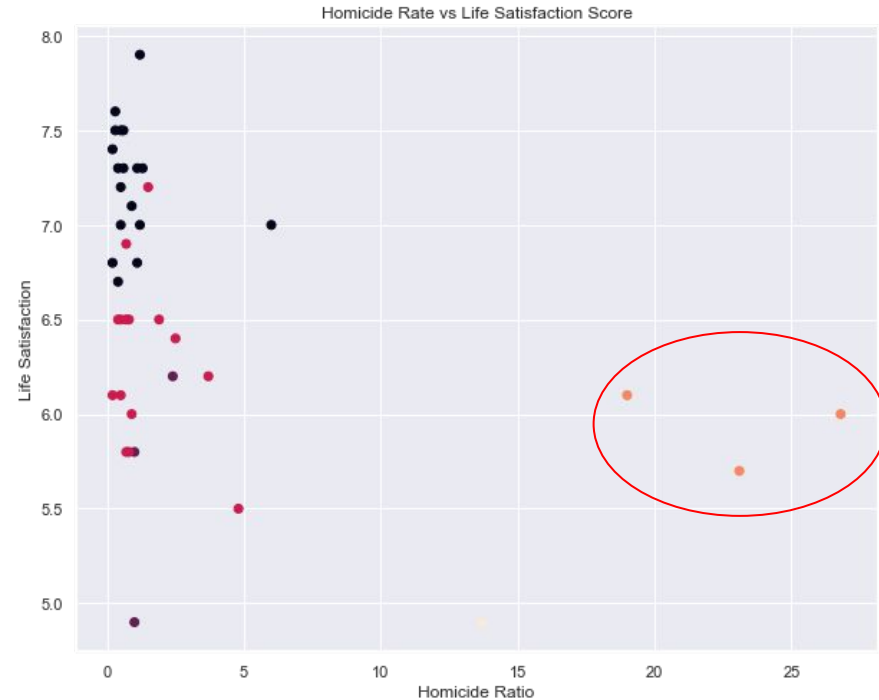
## Cluster [2] The Median Group with potential misclassification caused by cultural outlook

- Cluster includes many eastern and southern European states + Israel, Korea and Japan.
- Japan and Korea are interesting, as despite low unemployment, and higher income and wealth levels in their cluster - they self report some of the lowest Life Satisfaction scores.
- Additional observation is the disconnect between self-reported health levels, and actual life expectancy: Japan and Korea are the 1st and 5th longest lived, yet ranked themselves 38th and 39th in self-reported health respectively.
- Israel also had a number of null values in more model-sensitive features, such as: Income and Wealth levels. Based on its position in the overview, it is more likely to be a constituent of cluster [0] (rich nations) if all information was known.



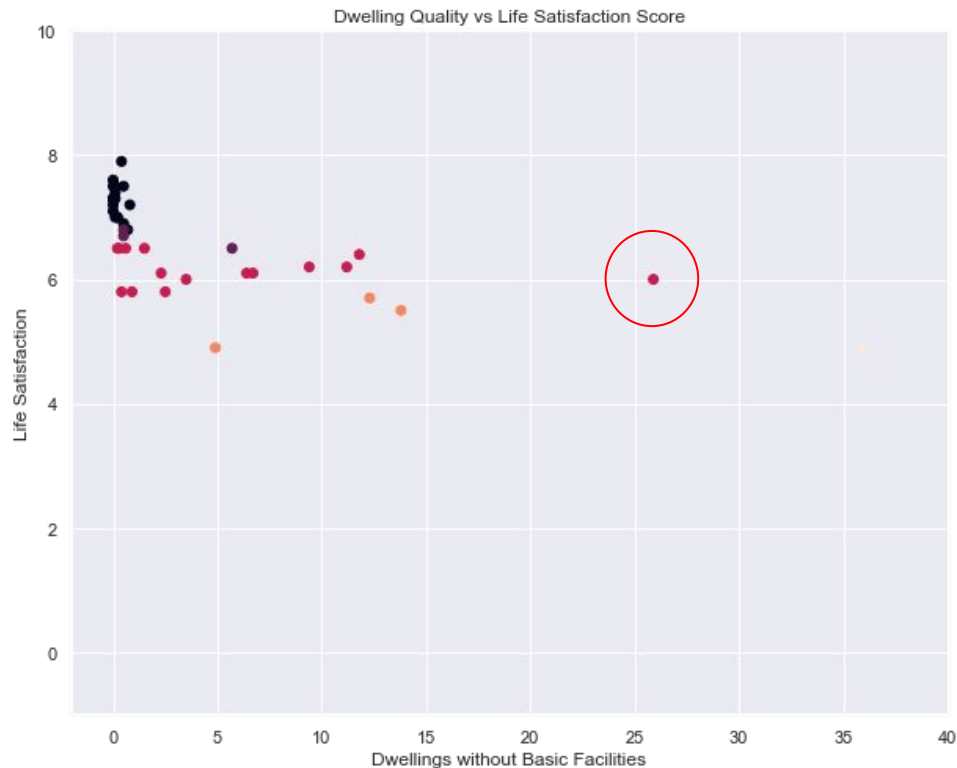
## Cluster [3] South America (minus Chile)

- Clear grouping of Columbia, Mexico and Brazil based largely on significantly higher Homicide rates relative to the rest of the world.
- However, this cluster also has the highest mean rate for *% Employees working very long hours*.



## Cluster [4] South Africa

- South Africa was separated out into its own cluster, largely due to the significantly higher rate of *Housing without Basic Facilities*
- Yet South Africa also has the highest Long-Term unemployment rate, at 17.9% (for context, Greece as the next closest sits at 10.8%)



# Conclusions

Based on broad analysis, key factors impacting Worldwide Life Satisfaction across our clusters:

1. *Higher homicide rate within Columbia, Brazil and Mexico.*
2. *High Labour market insecurity within Turkey and Greece.*
3. *Poor housing and infrastructure within South Africa.*
4. *Raising Income and Wealth levels within Southern and Eastern European State to the standards of Northern European states, and North America.*

*(Easier said than done on all of the above, however this is a broad based analysis!)*





# Q&A