

The happiness level of Americans

Part I: Information Sheet

Purpose of the research

Our goal with this survey is to delve deeper into the factors that contribute to happiness. We are particularly interested in gathering more detailed information on identity status, age, race, income, and happiness than what is currently available in the 2021 U.S. GSS data.

Type of research intervention

The study will contain a questionnaire, which takes up approximately 3 minutes.

Participant selection

By participating in this survey, you will be helping us to better understand how demographics and working conditions affect happiness.

Voluntary participation

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. It is your choice whether to participate or not. You can take a break or discontinue participation at any time without giving a reason.

Risks

There is little to no risk in participating in this research.

Data collection procedures

We will ask you questions about your general information and your happy condition. We will not request, and you should not provide, any sensitive personal information in this study.

Confidentiality

The information that you provided to us will be treated with care. It will be kept private and not be shared with anyone outside the research group members. Any data, recording or other personal information collected about you will be treated confidentially. The information about you will be numbered instead of your name and will not be given to anyone except the researchers. We may use recordings and notes for internal purposes as we continue to build on our problem identification.

Who to contact

If you have any questions or concerns about this study or if you wish to withdraw your consent in the future, please email mengze.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca.

Part II: Certificate of Consent

I have witnessed the accurate reading of the consent form to the potential participant, and the individual has had the opportunity to ask questions. I confirm that the individual has given consent freely.

I give my consent:

- For the data to be collected
- For individuals of the research team to use the data and notes for internal purposes

By completing this form, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the information in this Research Consent Form.

Survey Questions

1. What is your immigration status in the United States?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ US citizen
- ☐ Legal Permanent Resident ("green card holder")
- ☐ Family petitions
- ☐ Employer petitions
- ☐ Violence Against Women Act self-petitions (of any gender)
- ☐ Conditional Permanent Resident
- ☐ Asylee or Refugee
- ☐ Non-immigrant (a person with a visa that is good only for a specific duration)
- ☐ Undocumented Resident
- ☐ None of the above (I'm not currently located within the United States)
- ☐ Prefer not to say

2. What is your biological sex?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

3. How old are you?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Below 14 years
- ☐ 15-24 years
- ☐ 25-34 years
- ☐ 35-44 years
- ☐ 45-54 years
- ☐ 55-64 years
- ☐ 65 years and older
- ☐ Prefer not to say

4. What racial group do you belong to?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ White
- ☐ Hispanic and Latino
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Two or more races
- ☐ Native American or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Some other race
- ☐ Prefer not to say

5. Which group does your last year's annual income fall into?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Lower than \$10,000
- ☐ \$10,000 to 19,999
- ☐ \$20,000 to 29,999
- ☐ \$30,000 to 39,999
- ☐ \$40,000 to 49,999
- ☐ \$50,000 to 59,999
- ☐ \$60,000 to 69,999
- ☐ \$70,000 to 79,999
- ☐ \$80,000 to 89,999
- ☐ \$90,000 to 99,999
- ☐ More than \$100,000
- ☐ I don't have any income.
- ☐ Prefer not to say

6. How many hours did you work last week? (If this question does not apply to you, please put N/A in the box provided.)

7. How happy do you feel these days

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Not ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Very happy

8. Which of the following things do you consider will contribute to your happiness?

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Family
- ☐ Friends & Social Connections
- ☐ Love/Partner
- ☐ Material Possession
- ☐ Achievement
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Other: _____

Thank you for your participation!

If you have any questions or want to reach out to us, you can contact us at mengze.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca.

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