

A faint, light gray world map is visible in the background, centered behind the text.

SOCIAL FACTORS AFFECTING WORLD HAPPINESS

Analysis of the World Happiness Report

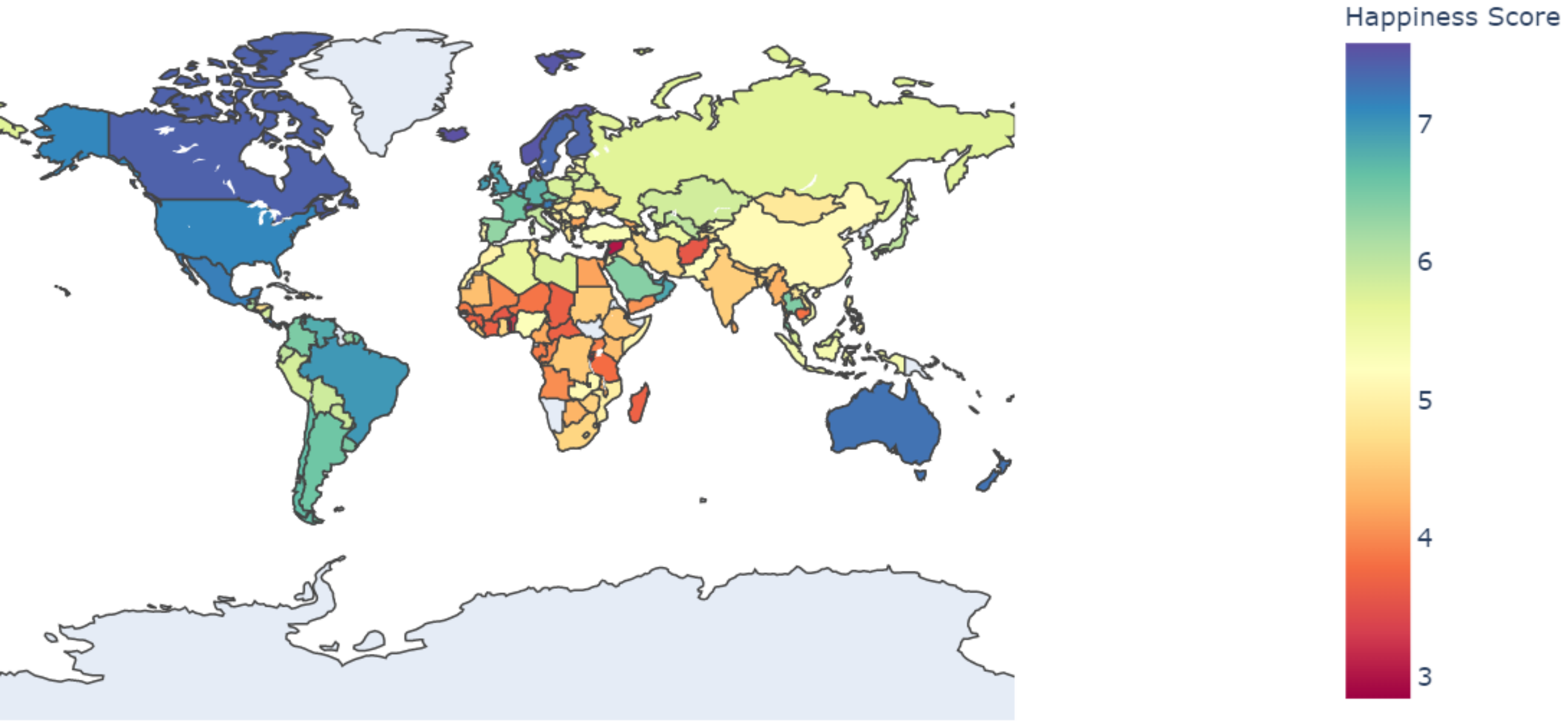
VALERIA BARISIC

WORLD HAPPINESS REPORT

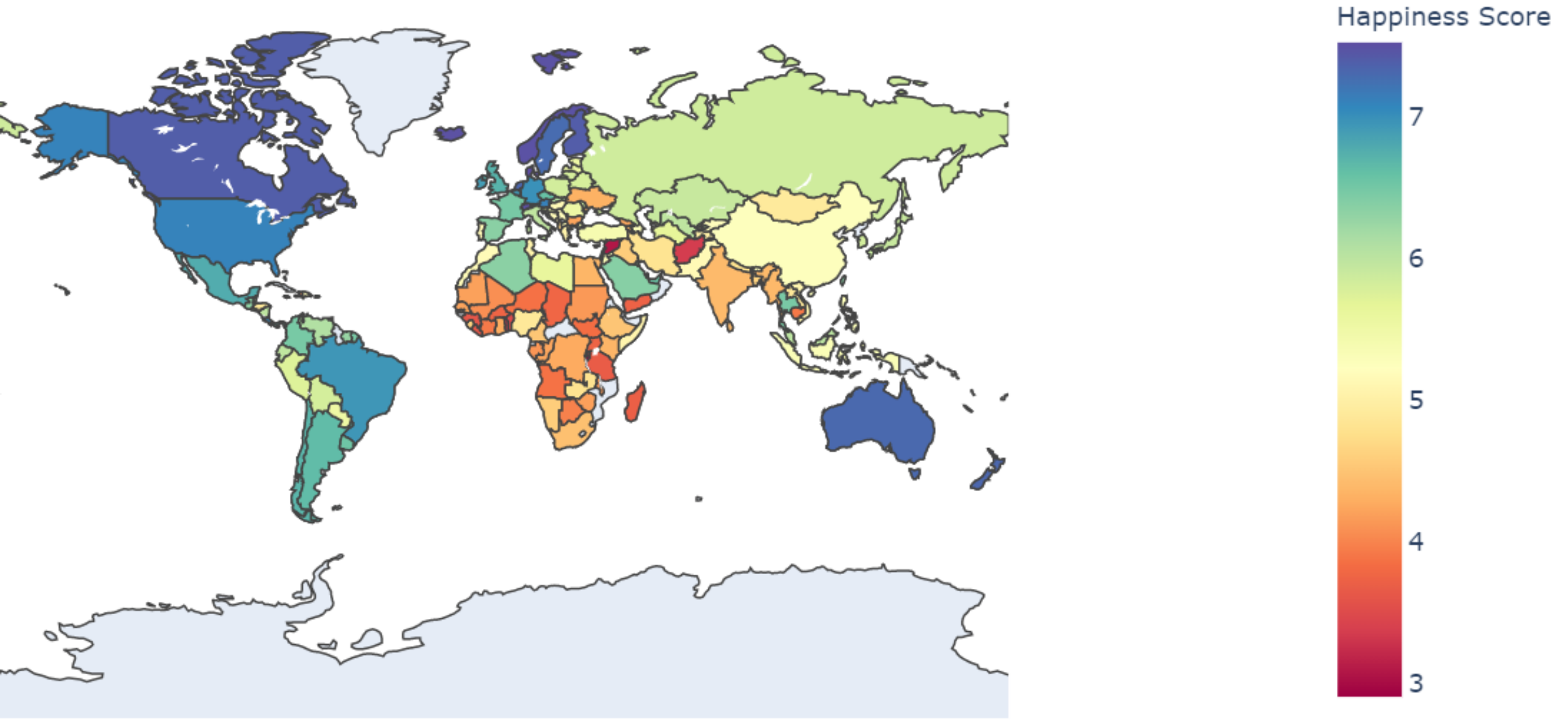
Published annually since 2012, the World Happiness Report is a global survey that ranks the happiness of 155+ countries based on six criteria:

- GDP per capita
- Social support
- Life expectancy
- Freedom
- Perception of government corruption
- Generosity

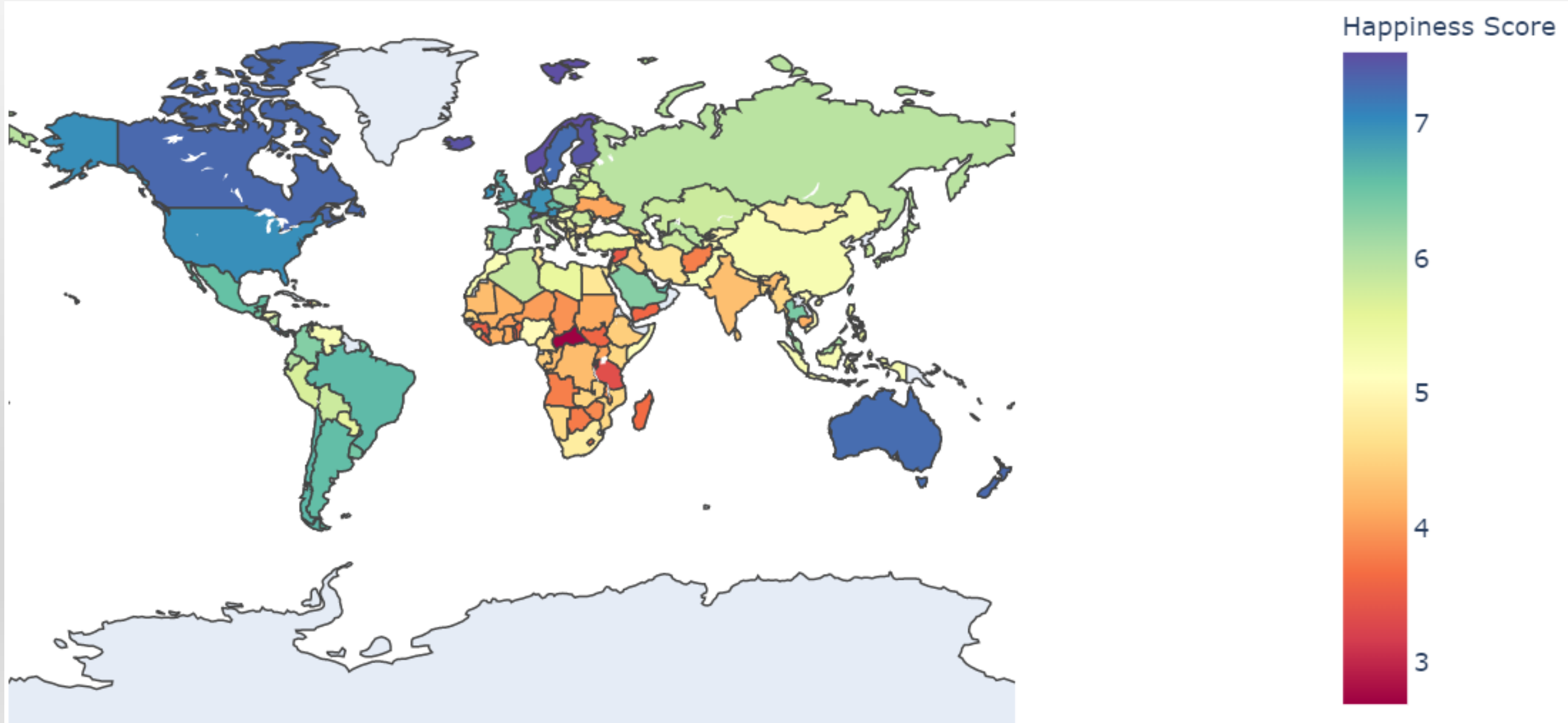
GLOBAL HAPPINESS SCORES (2015)



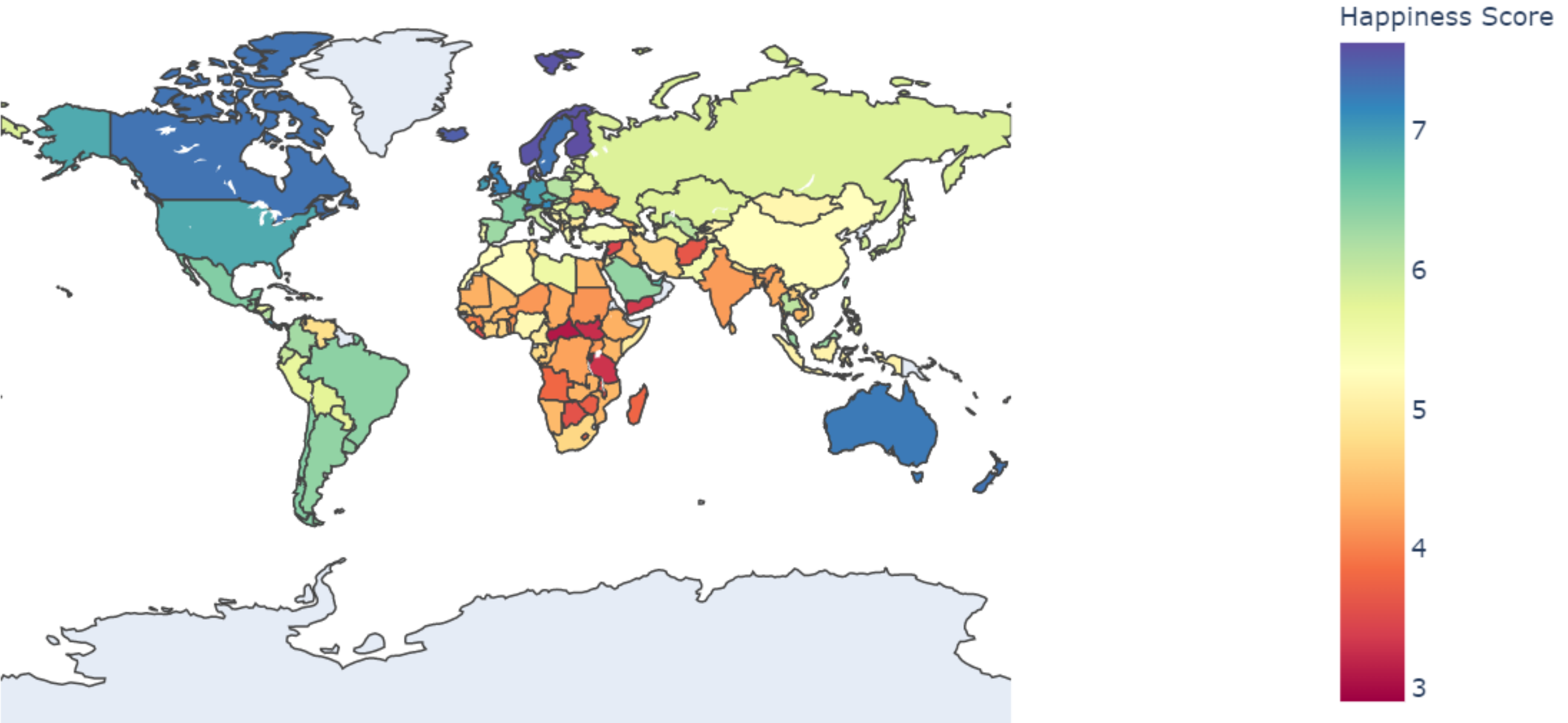
GLOBAL HAPPINESS SCORES (2016)



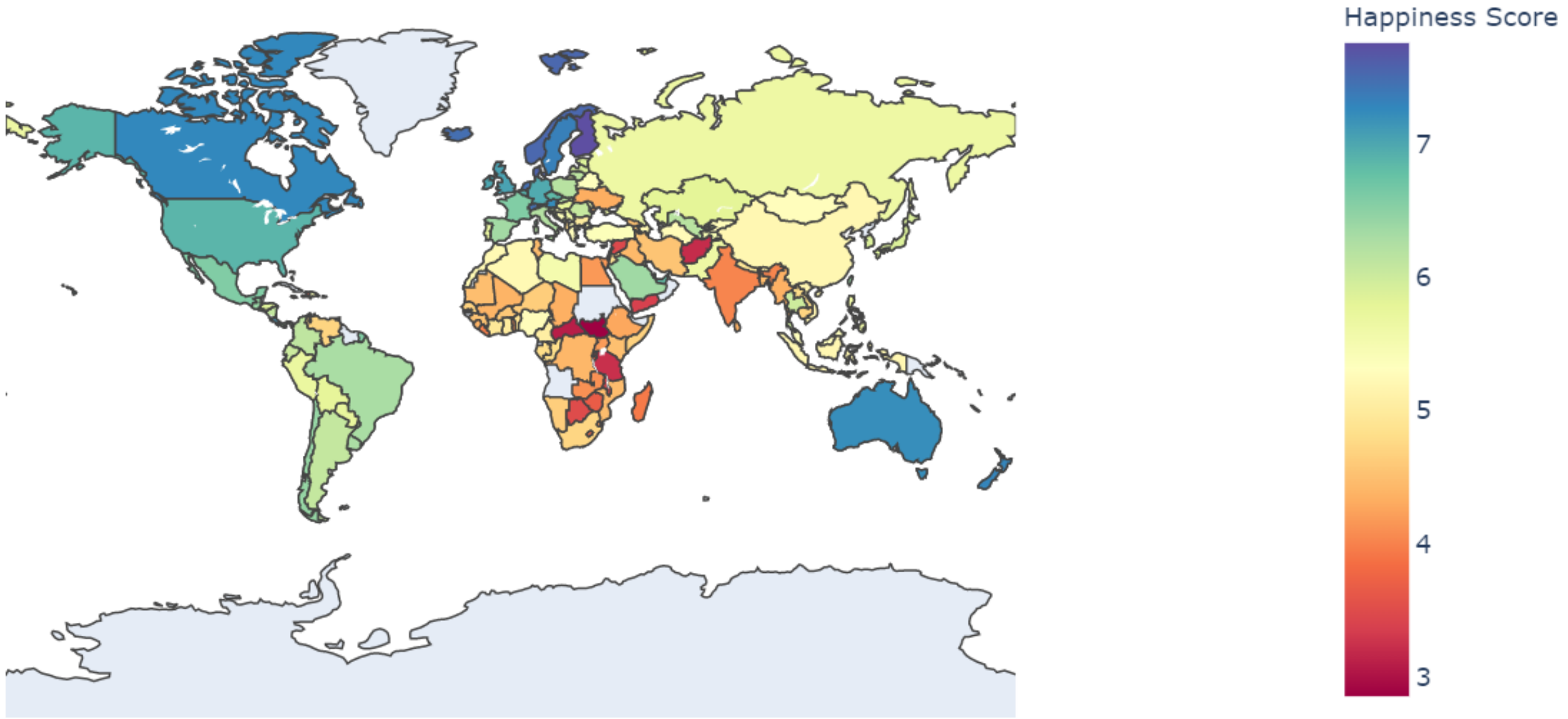
GLOBAL HAPPINESS SCORES (2017)



GLOBAL HAPPINESS SCORES (2018)



GLOBAL HAPPINESS SCORES (2019)



Based on the maps, we see that, regionally, the distribution of happiness scores remained the same from 2015 to 2019.

Each year Western Europe was ranked highest overall while Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia were ranked lowest.

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So, what makes one country happier than another?

Why are western Europeans ranked highest in happiness year after year while the least happiest countries tend to be concentrated mostly in Africa and Middle East/South Asia?

Are there any social factors that correlate with happiness?

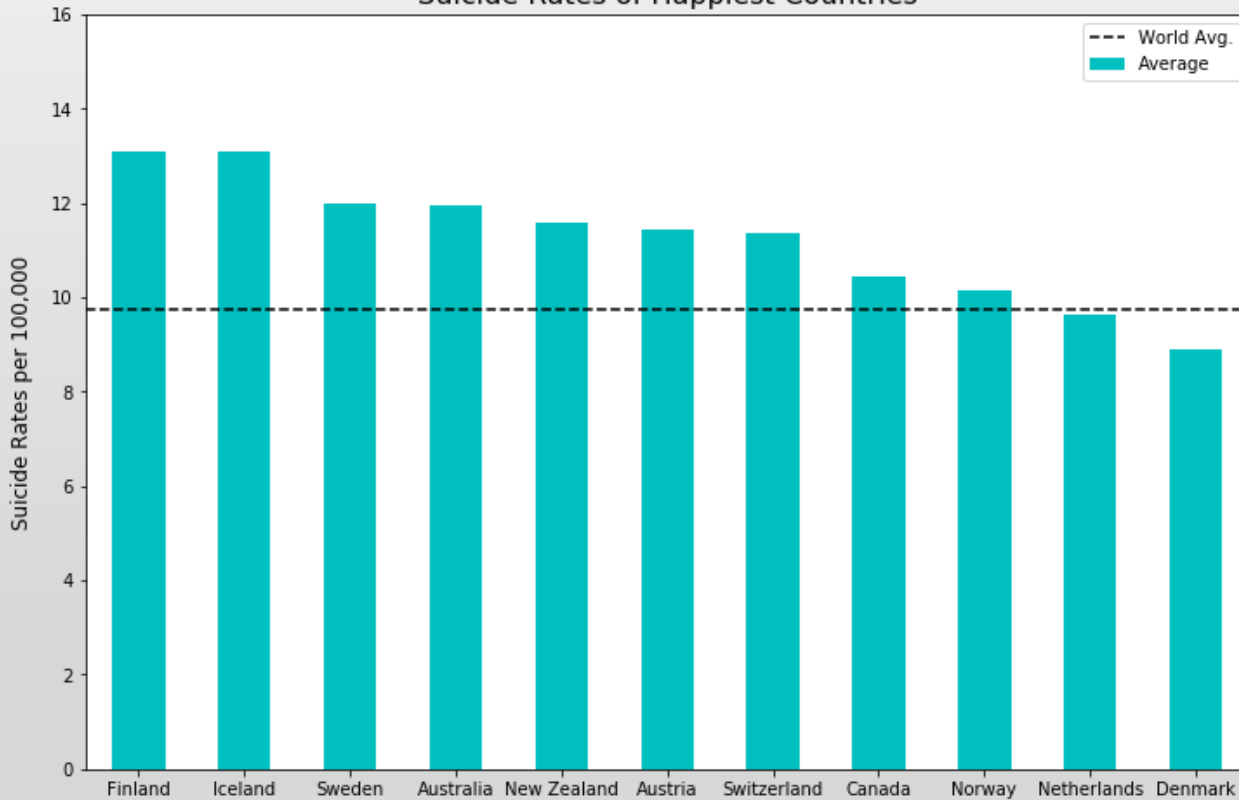
SOCIAL FACTORS CONSIDERED:

- Suicide rates – Would happier countries have lower rates of suicide?
- Religion – Does religion, or faith, influence happiness?
 - Affiliation
 - Attendance
 - Prayer
- GDP per Capita – Are people happier in wealthier countries?
- Education – Is ignorance truly bliss?
 - Secondary Enrollment
 - Tertiary Enrollment

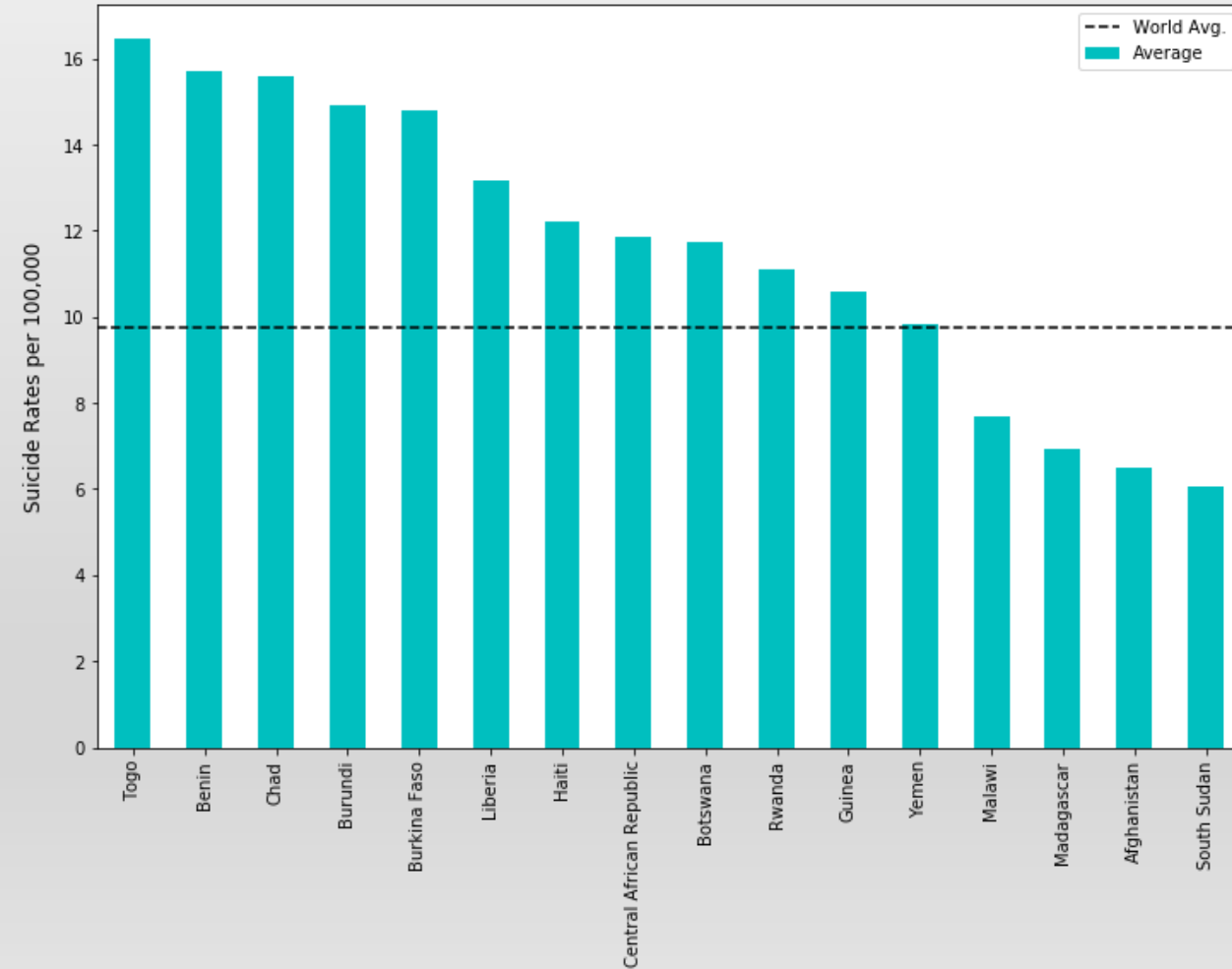
SUICIDE RATES

SUICIDE RATES

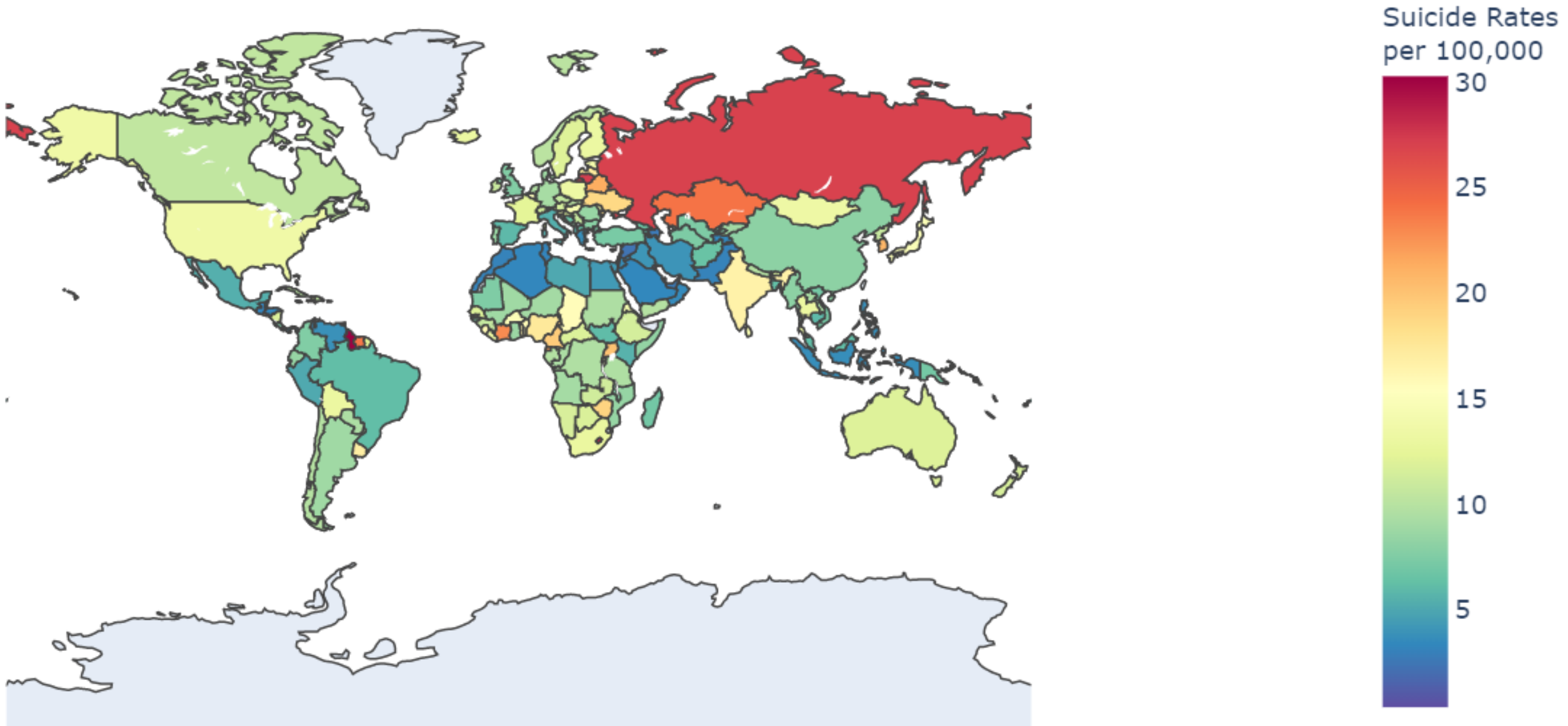
Suicide Rates of Happiest Countries



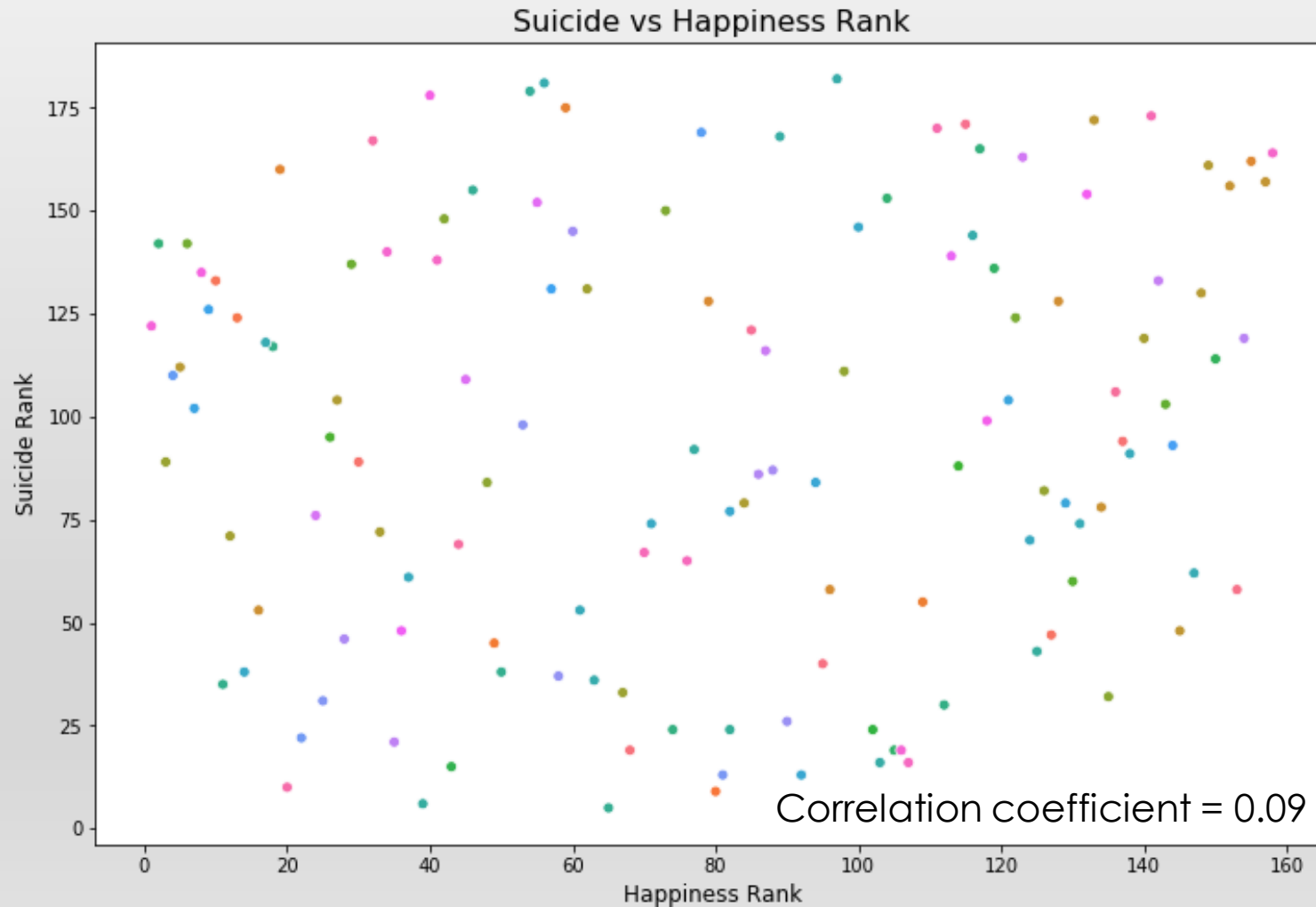
Suicide Rates of Least Happiest Countries



Average Suicide Rates



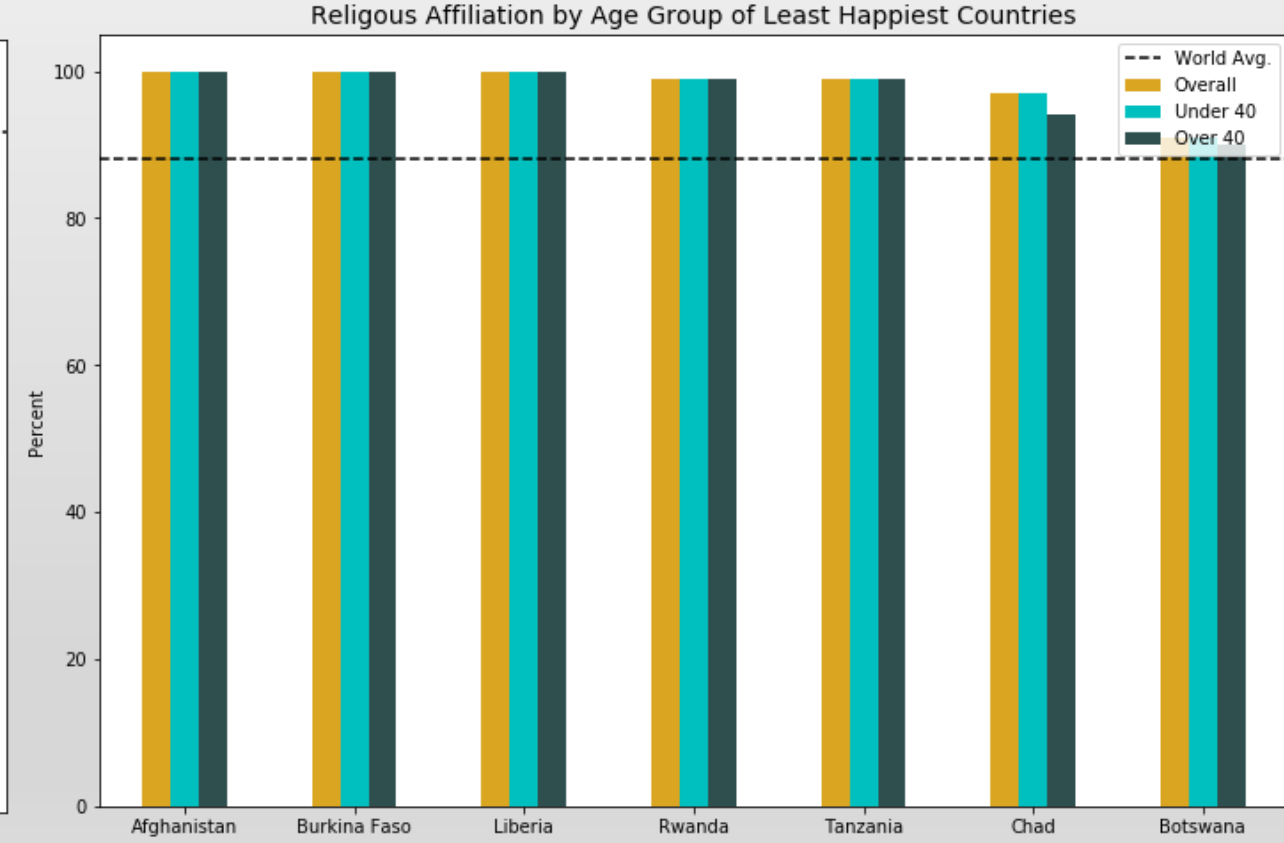
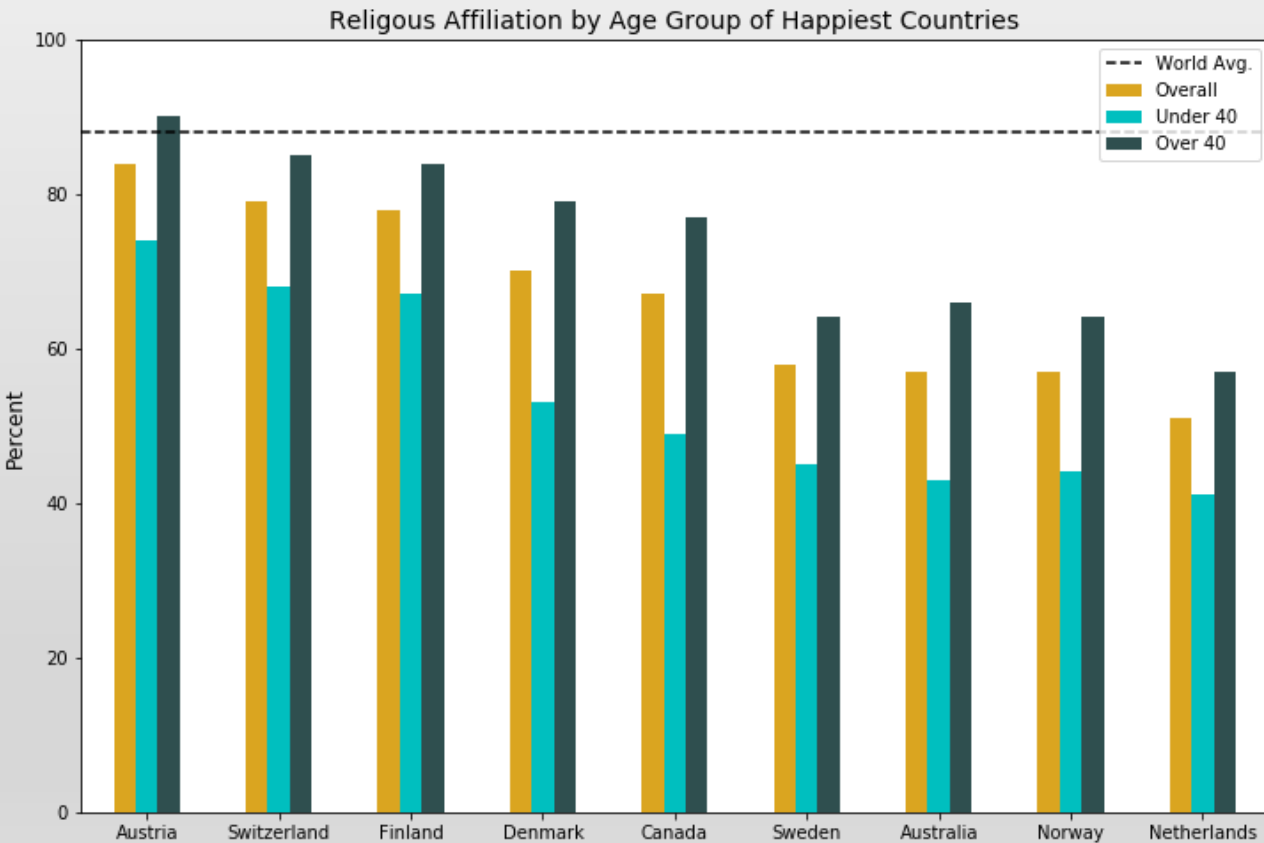
SUICIDE RATES



Suicide rates are ranked from lowest to highest avg.

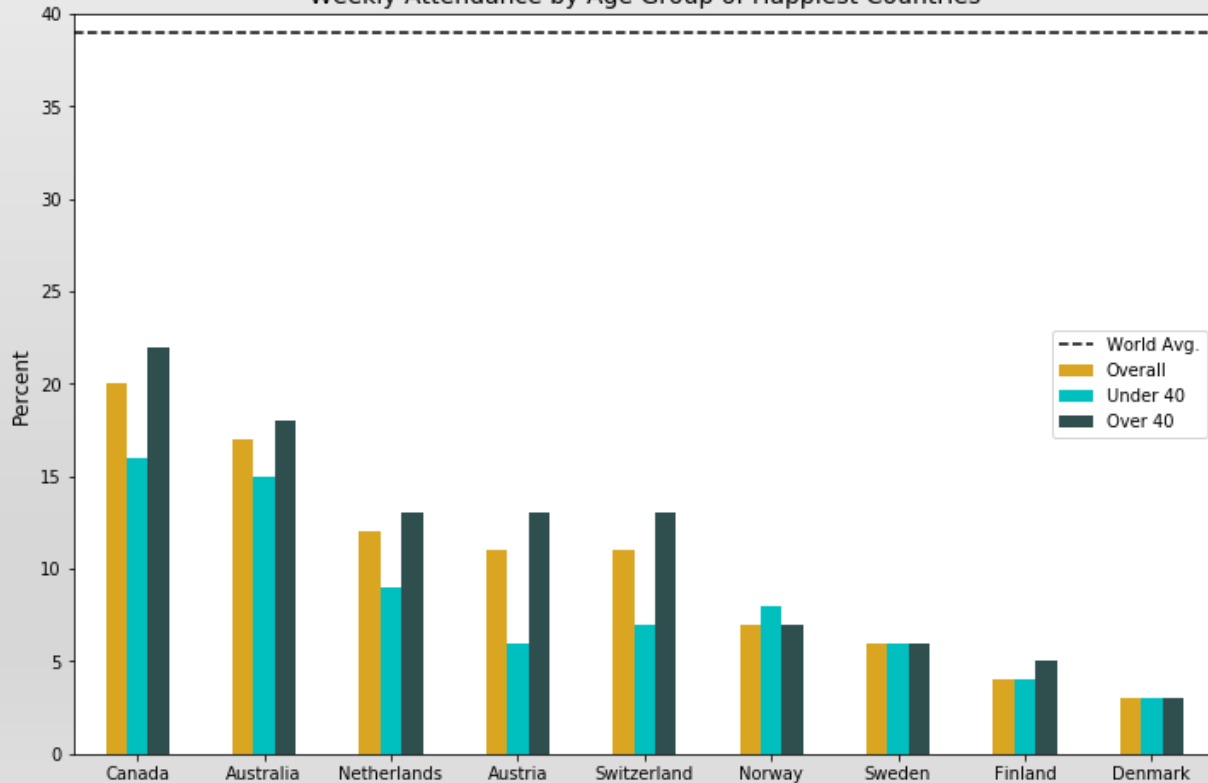
RELIGION

RELIGION – RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

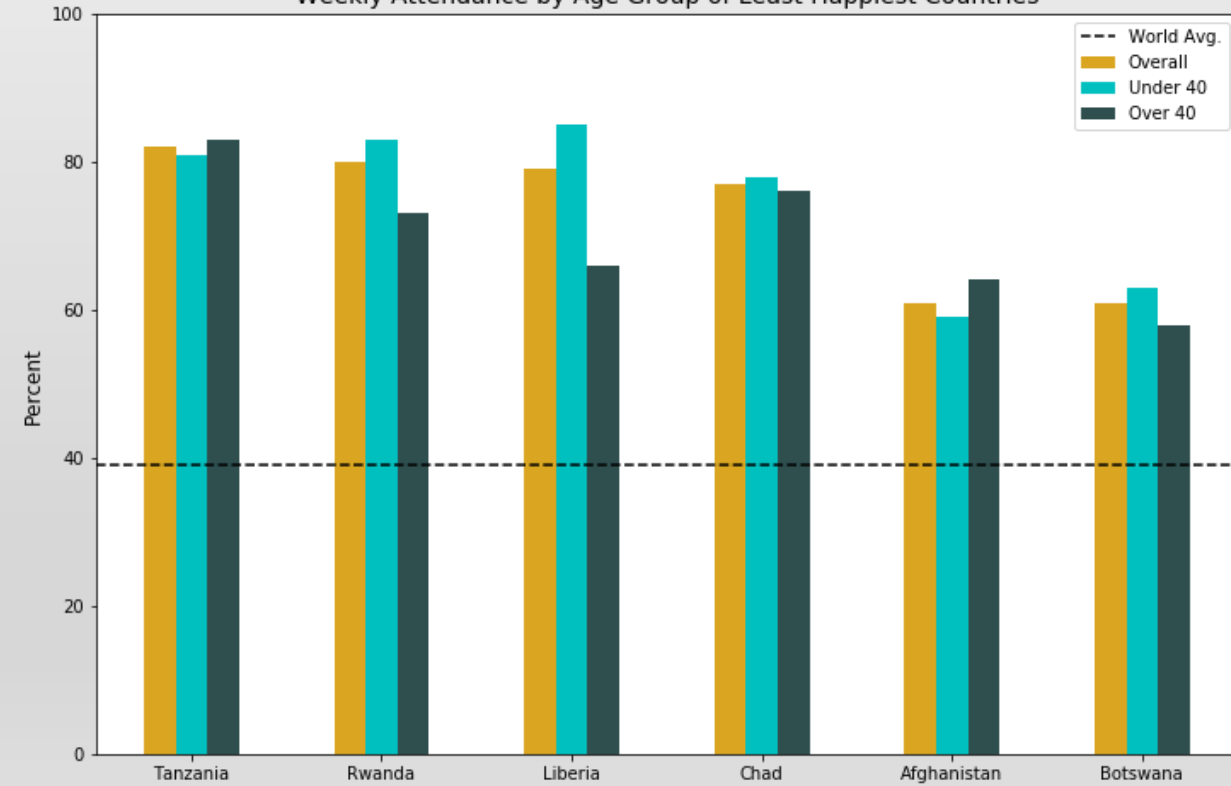


RELIGION – WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

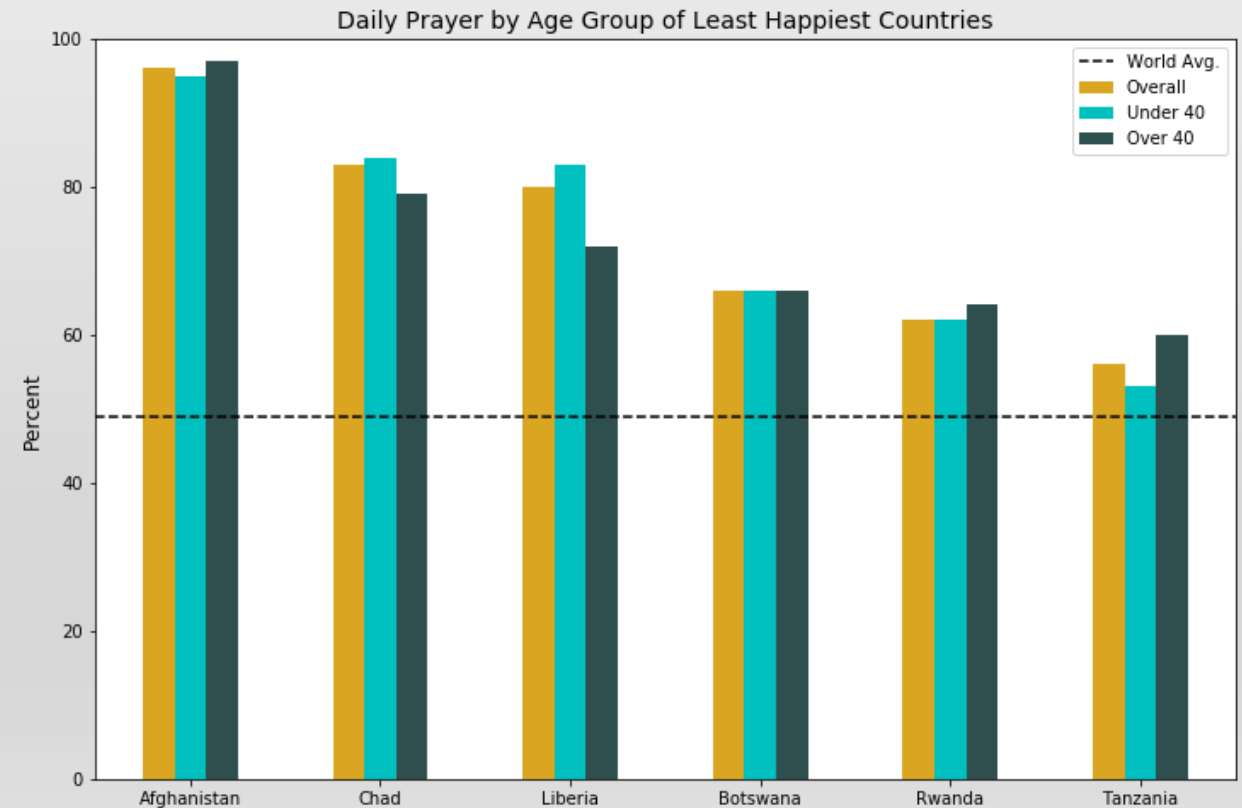
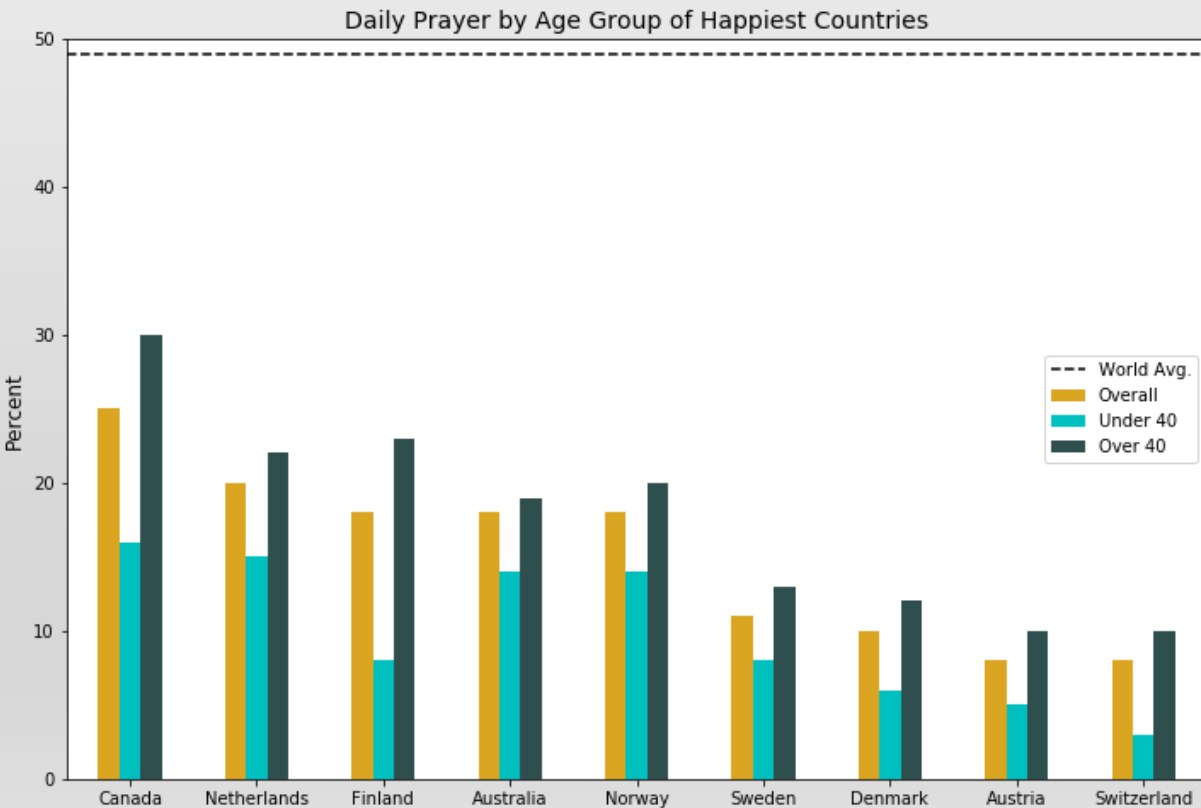
Weekly Attendance by Age Group of Happiest Countries



Weekly Attendance by Age Group of Least Happiest Countries

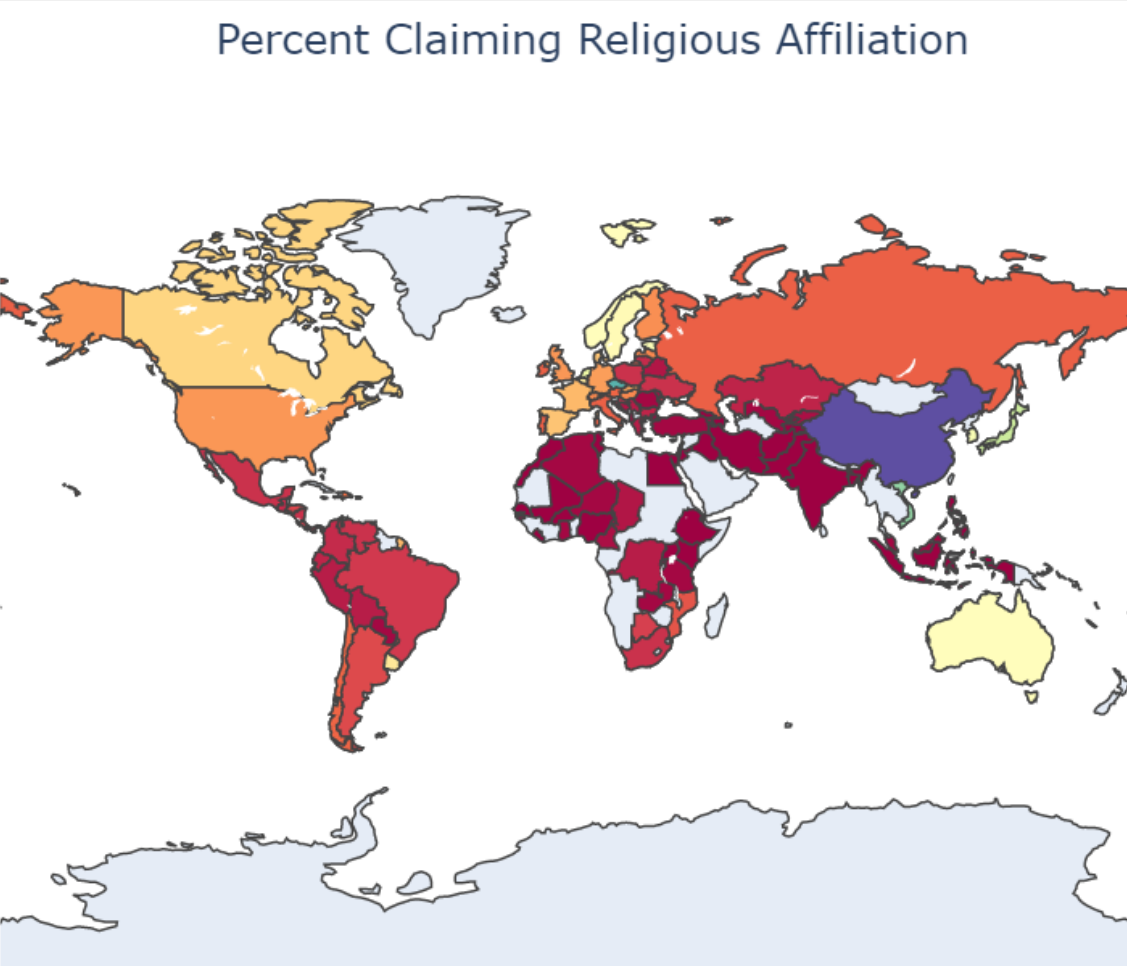


RELIGION – DAILY PRAYER

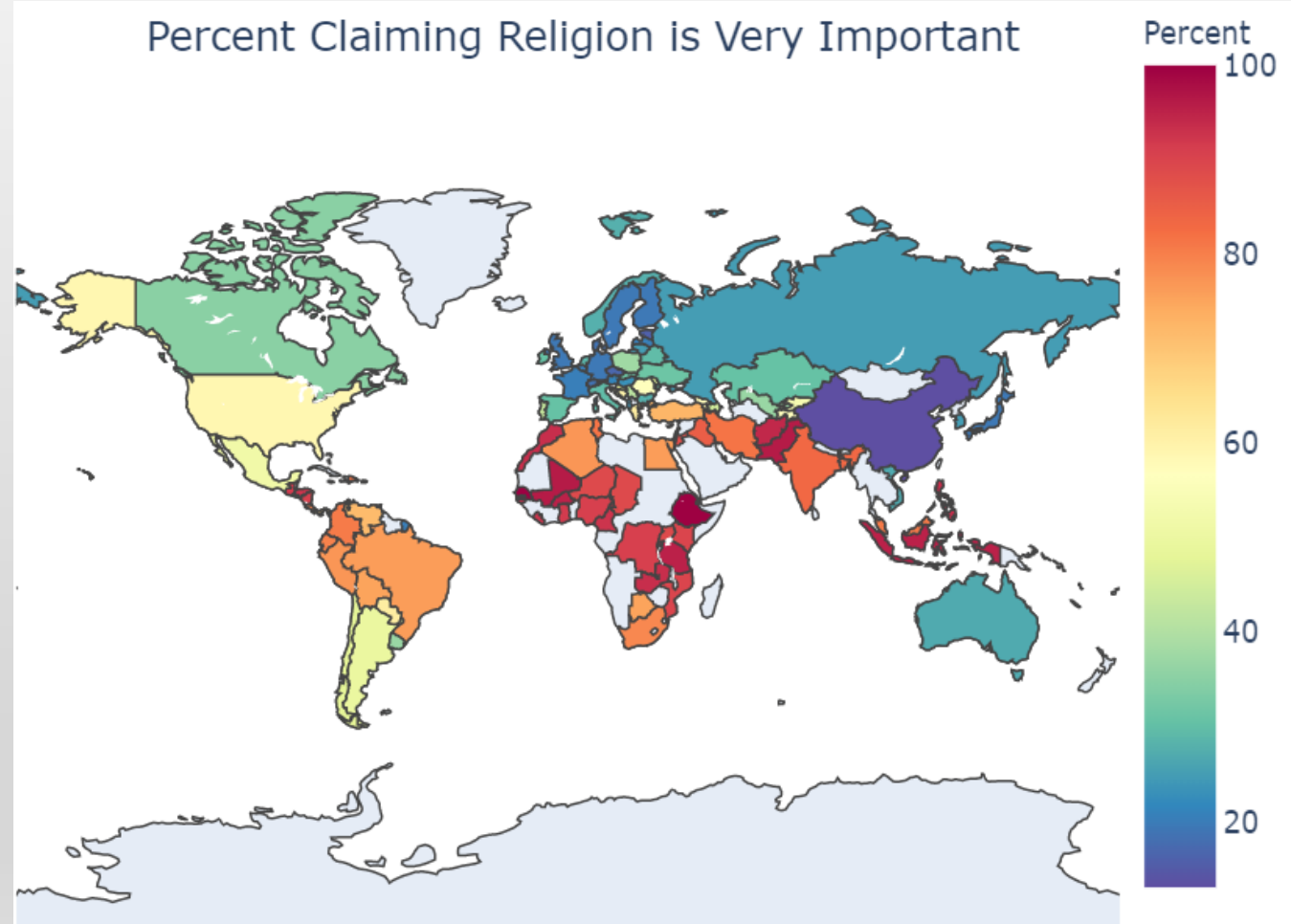


RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION VS RELIGIOUS IMPORTANCE

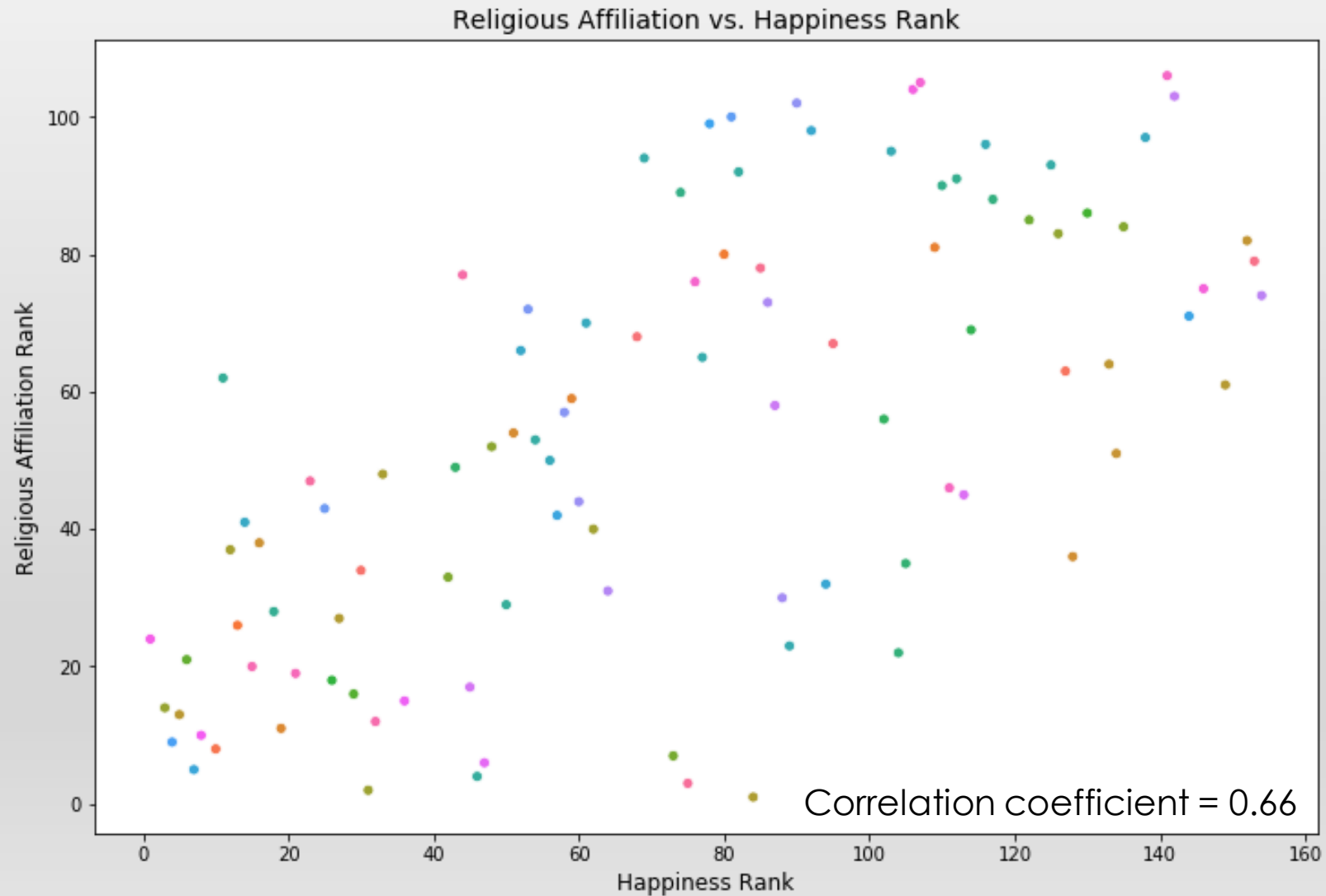
Percent Claiming Religious Affiliation



Percent Claiming Religion is Very Important



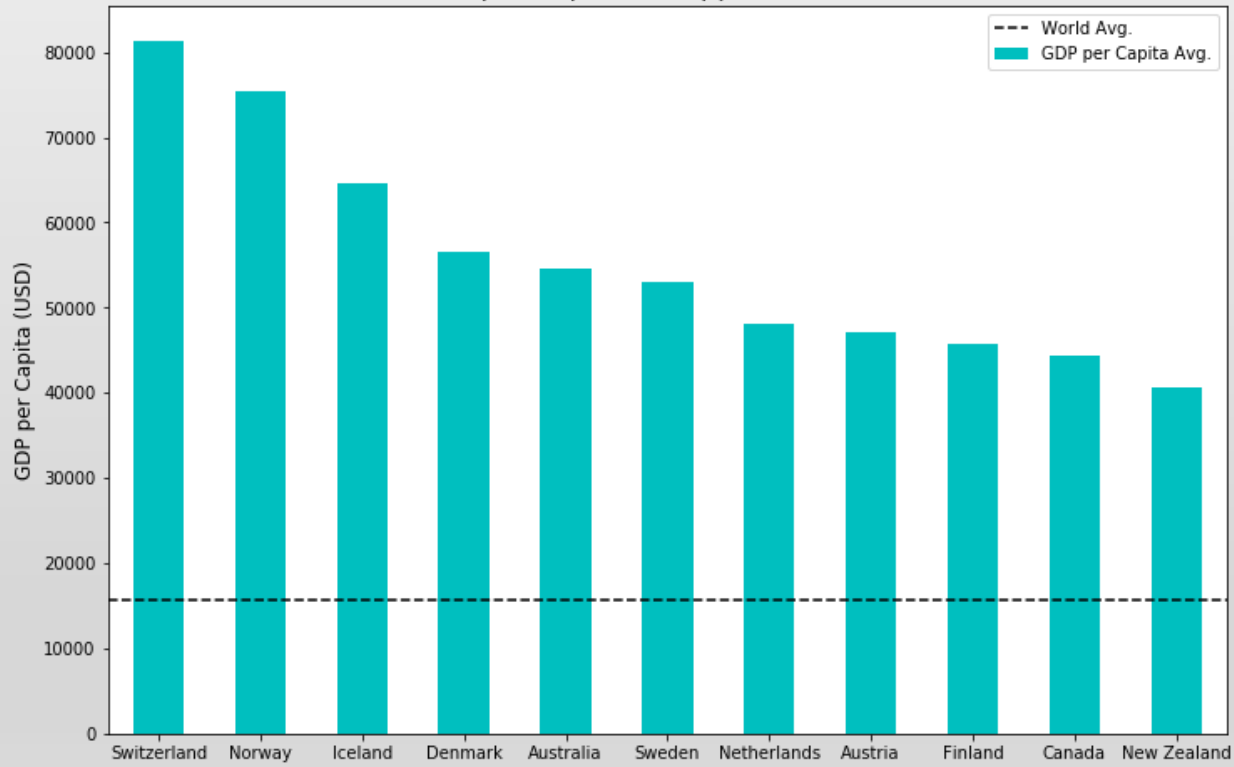
RELIGION



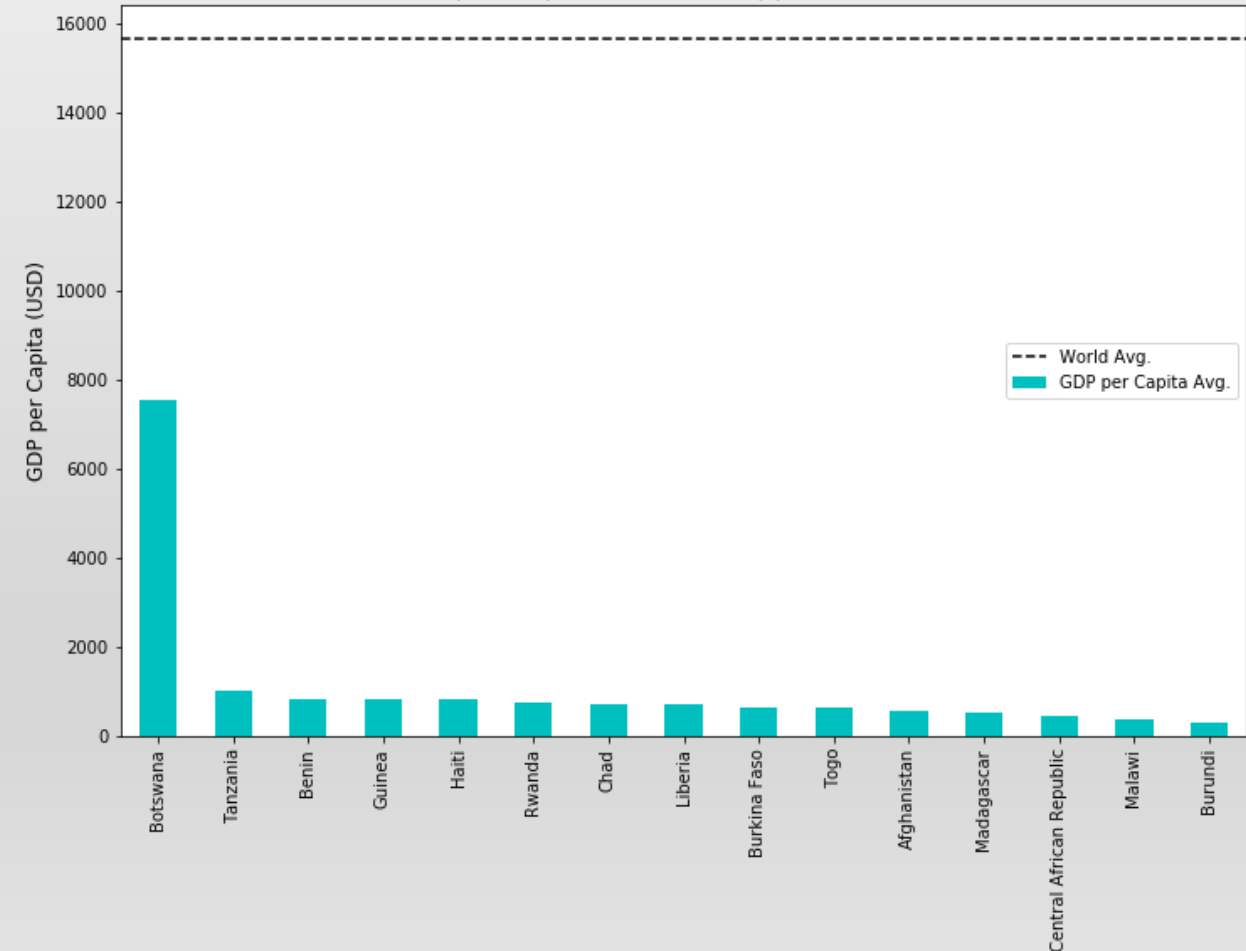
GDP PER CAPITA

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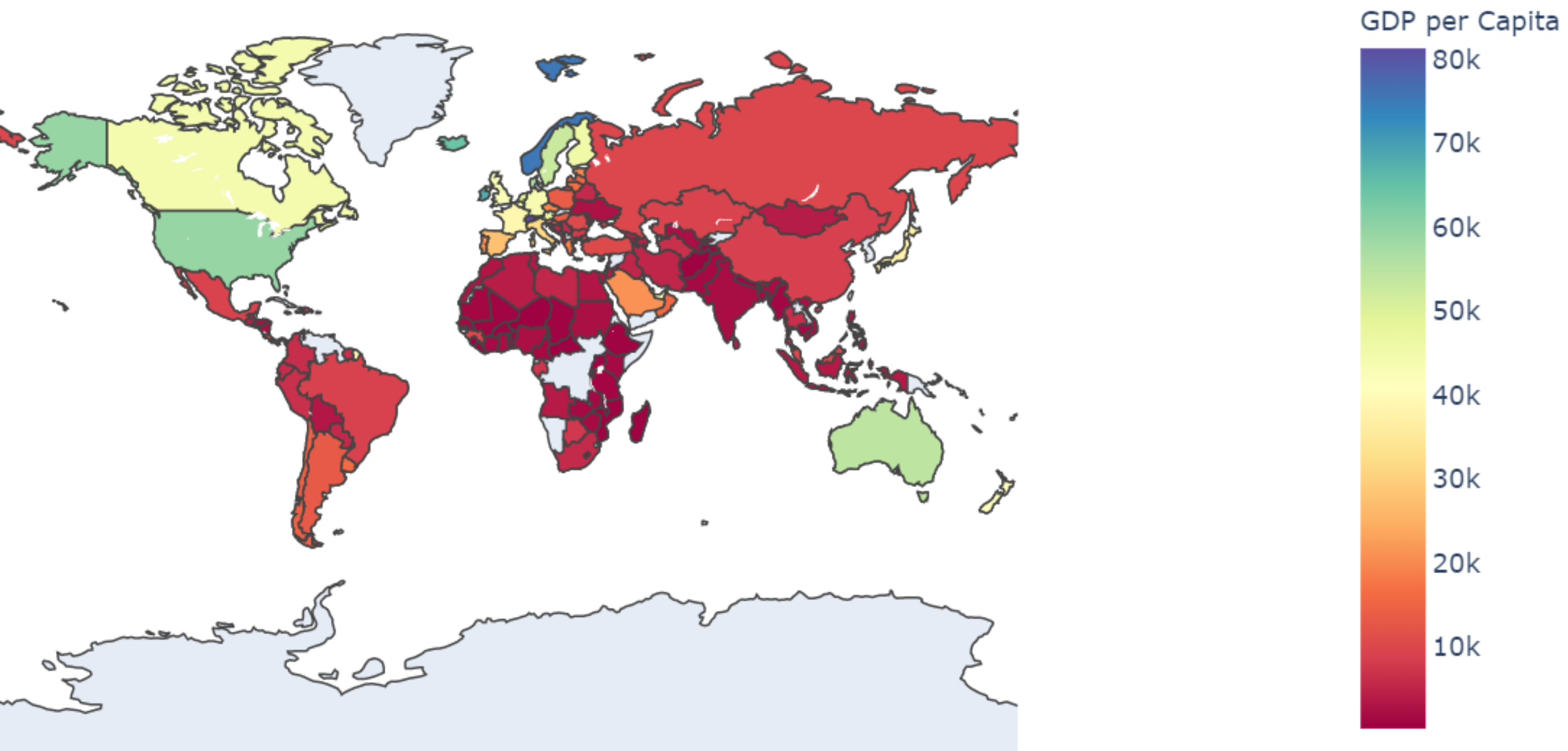
GDP per Capita of Happiest Countries



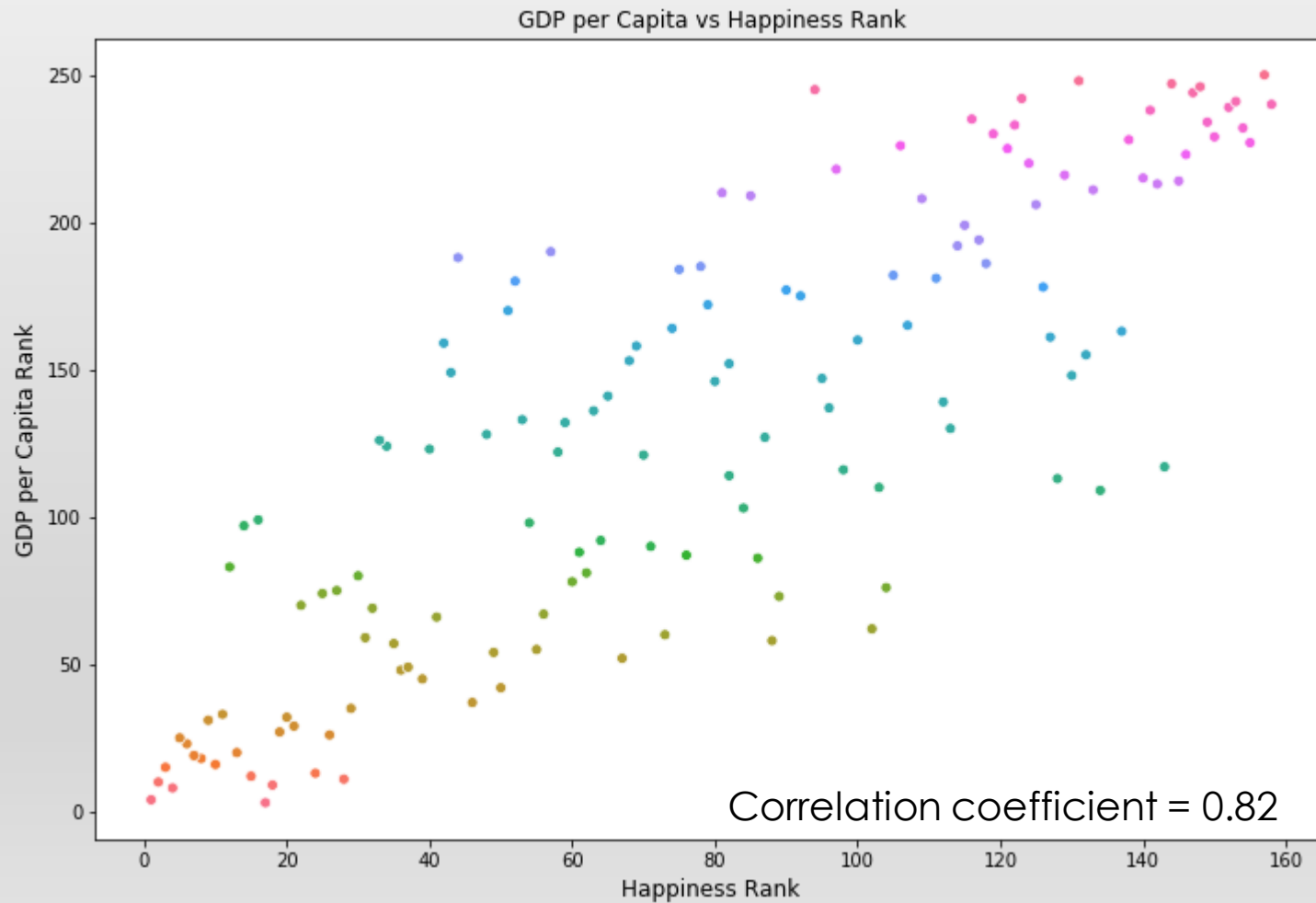
GDP per Capita of Least Happiest Countries



Average GDP per Capita



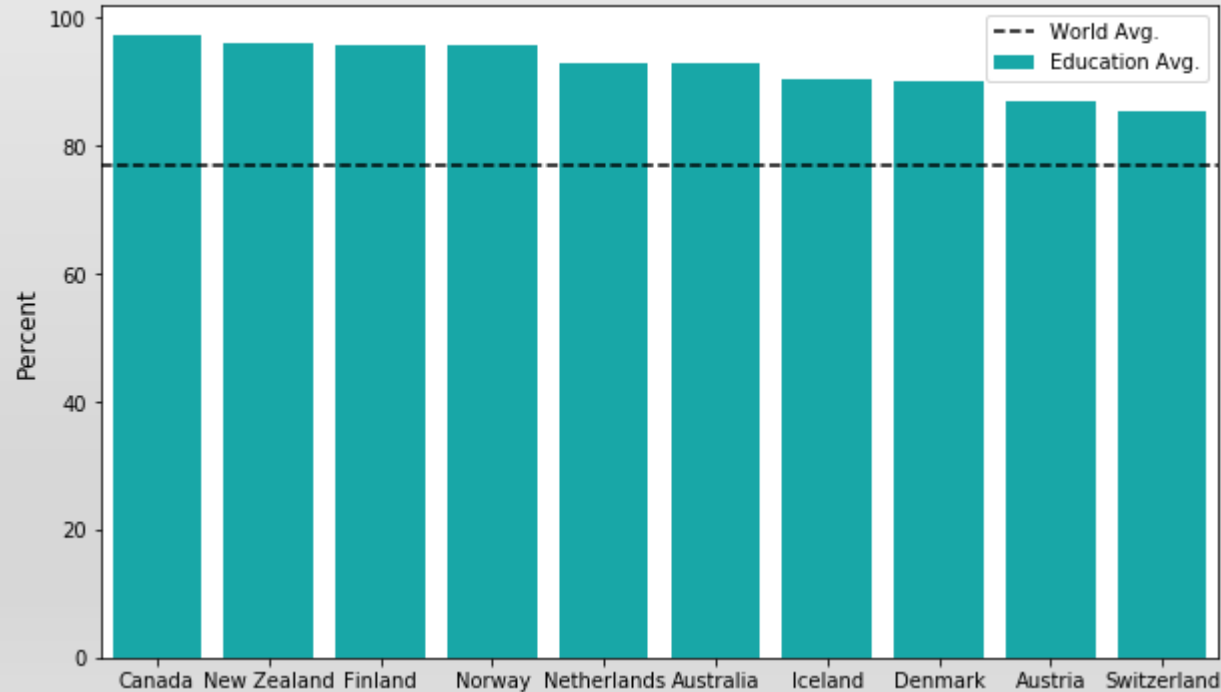
GDP PER CAPITA



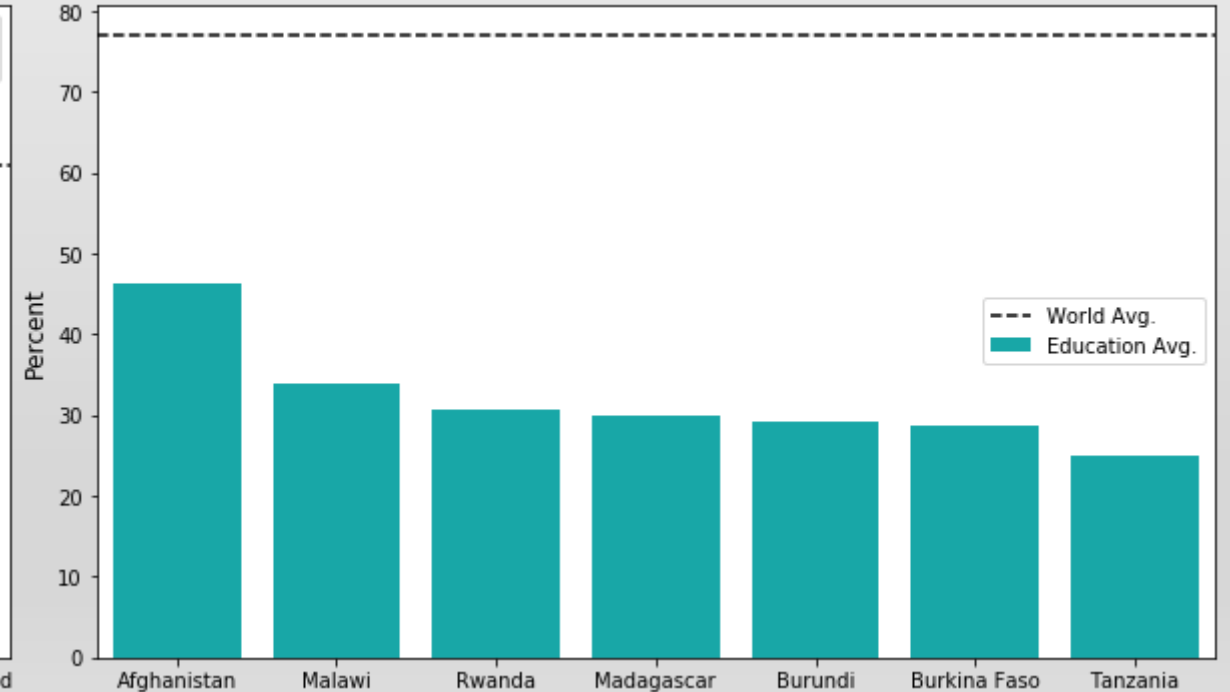
EDUCATION

EDUCATION – SECONDARY

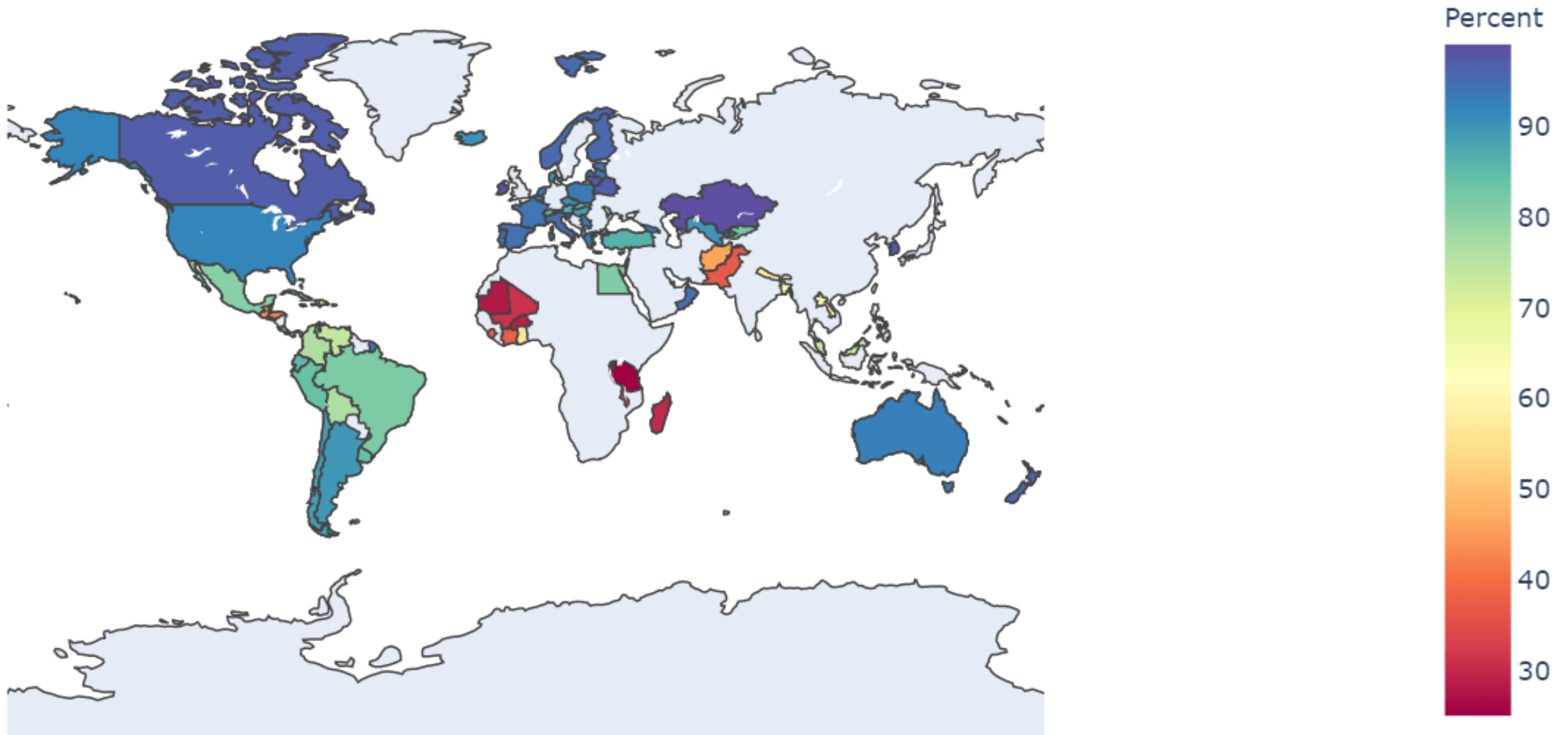
Secondary Education Enrollment of Happiest Countries (%)



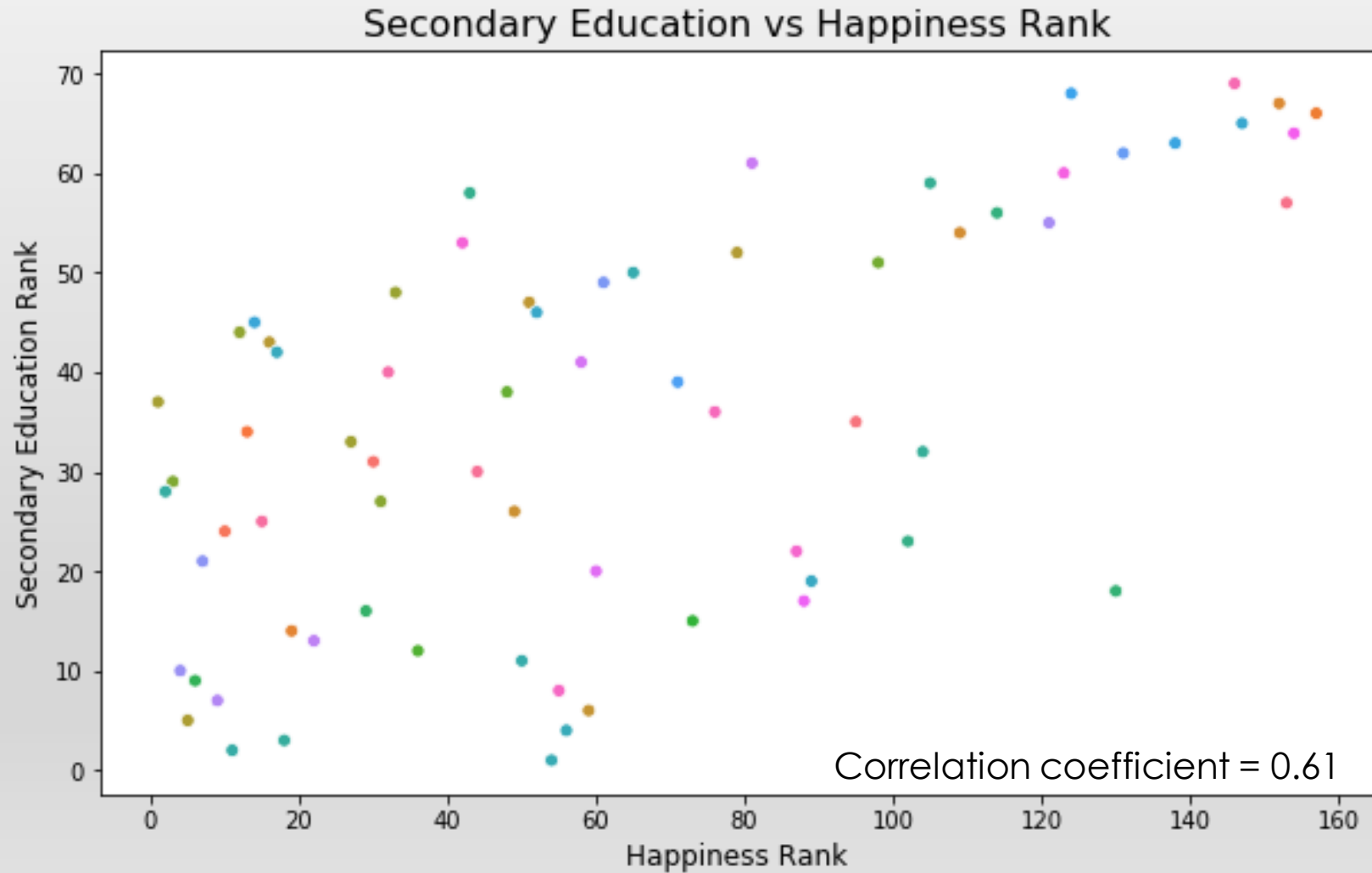
Secondary Education Enrollment of Least Happiest Countries (%)



Secondary Education Enrollment (%)

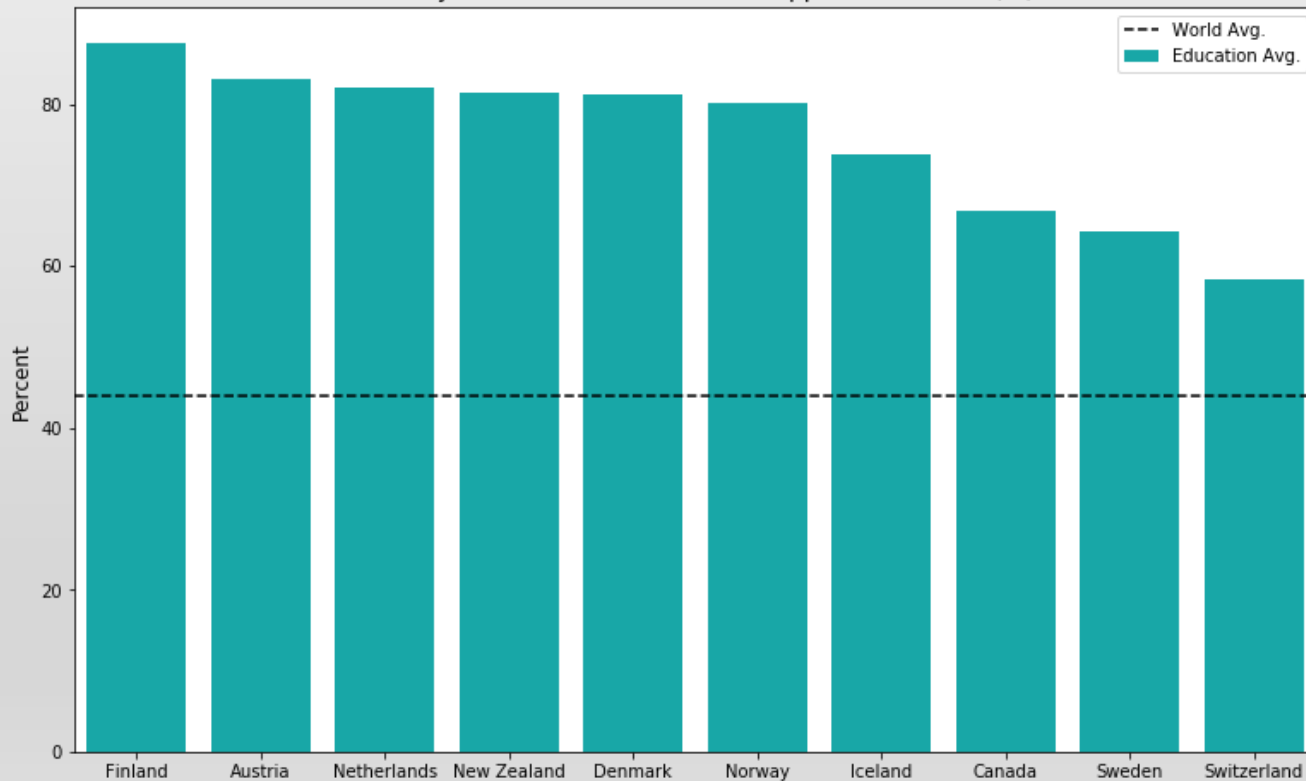


EDUCATION – SECONDARY

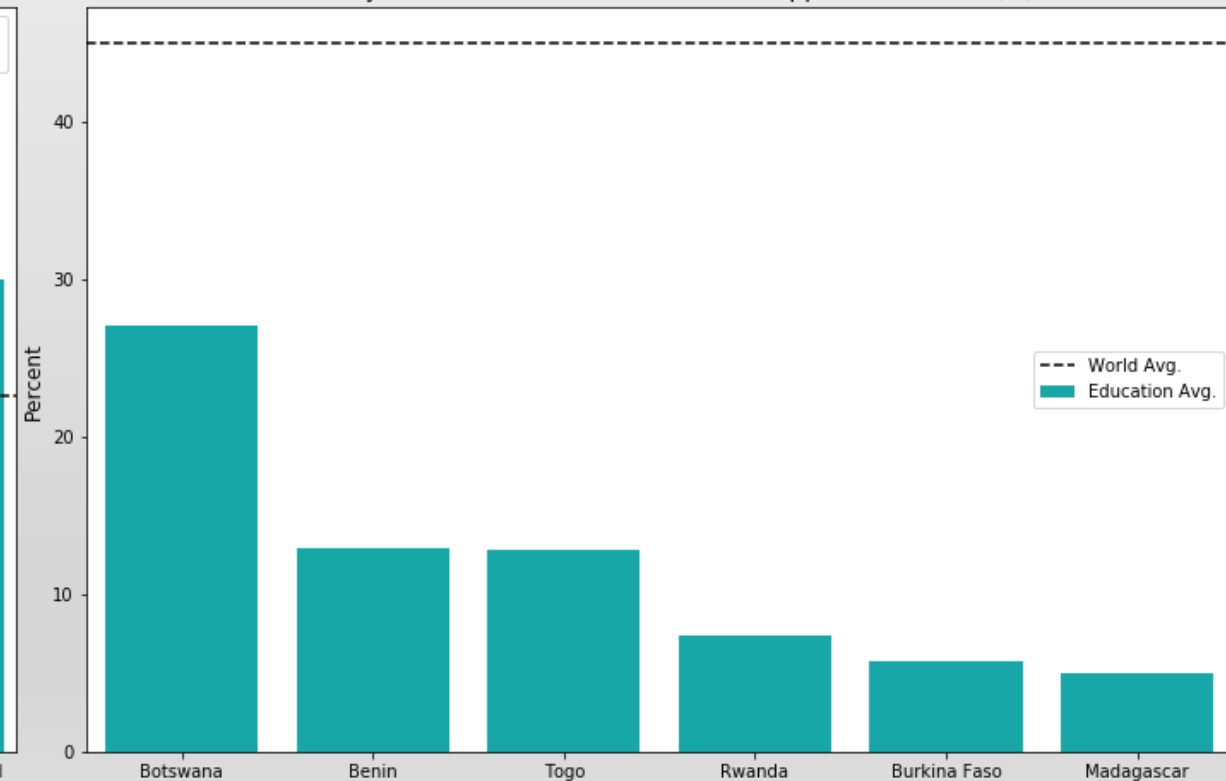


EDUCATION - TERTIARY

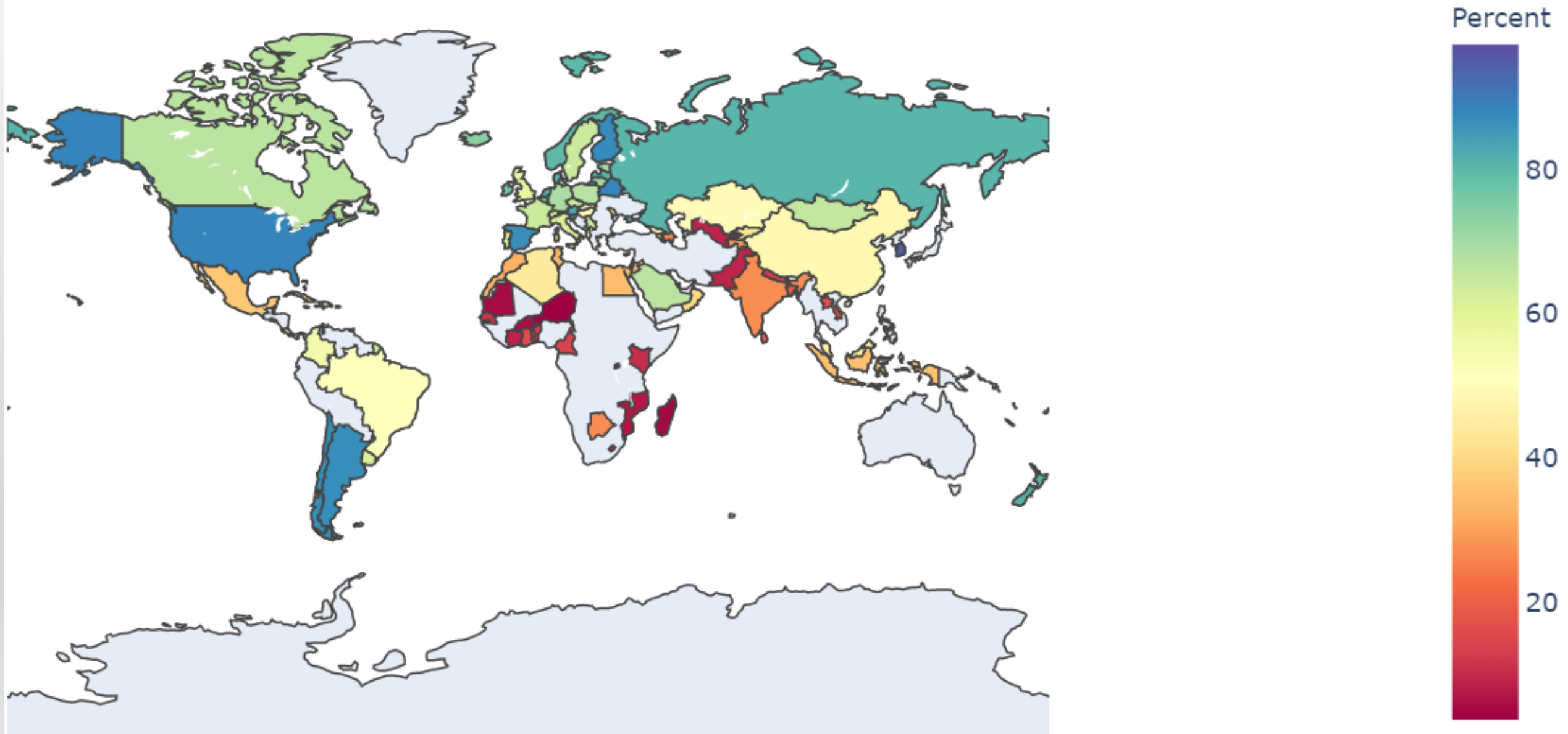
Tertiary Education Enrollment of Happiest Countries (%)



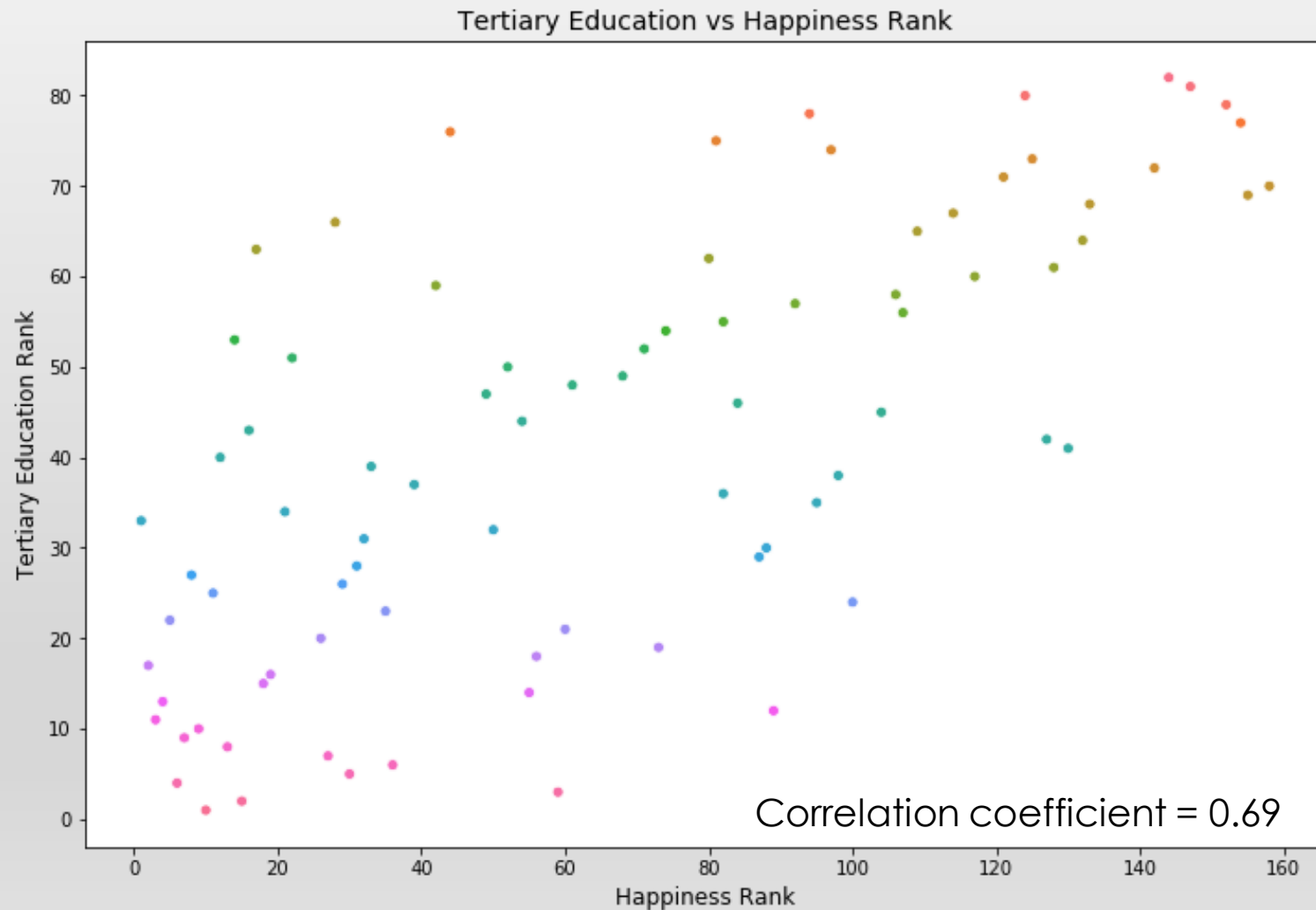
Tertiary Education Enrollment of Least Happiest Countries (%)



Tertiary Education Enrollment (%)



EDUCATION - TERTIARY



CONCLUSION

A positive correlation is observed between happiness and:

- GDP per capita
- Education enrollment
- Religion (or lack thereof)

No correlation observed with suicide rates.

However, lack of sufficient data for the bottom ranked countries makes drawing a correlation more challenging.

PENDING WORK

- Unemployment rates
- Physical activity

Current datasets lack many of the bottom ranked countries

FUTURE WORK

- Social media usage
- Climate
- Genetics

DATA SOURCES

- World Happiness Report – www.worldhappiness.report
- WHO Suicide Statistics - <http://apps.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/mortality/whodpms/>
- GDP per Capita - <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>
- Religion - <https://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2018/06/12094011/Appendix-B.pdf>
- Education - <https://data.worldbank.org/topic/education>

QUESTIONS

