



Material, School, Time, overall subjective well-being and policy implications:

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WORKING GROUP ON THE QUALITY OF CHILDHOOD AT THE
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Material resources index

- ◆ Clothes in good condition to go to school in
- ◆ Access to a computer at home
- ◆ Access to the internet
- ◆ A mobile phone
- ◆ Your own room
- ◆ Books to read for fun
- ◆ A family car for transportation
- ◆ Your own stuff to listen to music

How satisfied are you with all the things you have

Responses were on an 11-point unipolar scale from 'Not at all satisfied' to 'Totally satisfied'

Material resources: % lacking

	Clothes	Computer	Internet	Mobile	Own room	Books	Car	Music	Mean material resources lacked	Mean Satisfaction with things they have
Norway	0.3	1.9	0.8	2.2	6.7	3.4	2.7	1.4	0.2	9.4
Poland	1.1	2.4	3.8	5.3	7.9	14.2	10.9	9.4	0.5	9.3
Estonia	0.4	2.8	2.3	4.3	28.0	4.5	12.0	11.7	0.6	9.0
England	0.4	5.7	3.3	16.4	17.2	9.3	9.8	5.4	0.7	9.2
Germany	2.0	15.3	8.9	8.0	10.2	21.7	7.1	4.8	0.8	9.2
Spain	2.0	6.3	8.0	45.6	17.6	9.8	11.7	14.7	1.1	9.3
Romania	0.9	13.7	20.2	18.1	36.5	11.5	40.1	13.1	1.5	9.6

Time use questions

How often do you usually spend time doing the following activities when you are not at school?

- ◆ Taking classes outside school time on matters different than at school
- ◆ Participating in organised leisure-time activities*
- ◆ Reading for fun (not homework)
- ◆ Helping around the house
- ◆ Doing homework
- ◆ Watching TV or listening to music
- ◆ Playing sports or doing exercise
- ◆ Using a computer
- ◆ Spending time just being by myself*
- ◆ Taking care of brothers or sisters or other family members*

Responses were on a four-point frequency scale from 'Rarely or never' to 'Every day or almost every day', plus 'Don't know'

The three items marked with a * were only asked in the questionnaire for 12-year-olds.

Satisfaction questions

- ◆ How satisfied are you with ..
- ◆ How you use your time
- ◆ What you do in your free time

Responses were on a unipolar, 11-point scale from 0-10, with 0 labelled as 'Not at all satisfied' and 10 labelled as 'Totally satisfied'.

Time-use

	TV	Computer	By self	Classes	Org. leisure	Sports/ Exercise	Help house	Care family	Home work	Reading for fun	Overall satisfaction with time use
Estonia	1.01	1.26	1.09	1.25	0.49	0.97	0.9	1.11	0.98	0.75	8.5
Germany	1.11	1.01	0.98	1.33	0.85	1.12	0.88	0.49	1.05	1.03	8.5
Norway	1.07	1.13	1.06	1.16	0.51	1.05	1.03	0.75	1.02	0.91	8.6
Poland*	1.04	1.24	1.04	0.98	0.52	1.1	1.05	0.84	1.03	0.86	8.7
Romania	1.1	1.16	0.61	0.73	0.74	1.07	1.11	0.95	1.08	1.16	9.2
Spain*	0.95	1.06	1.21	1.1	0.74	0.96	0.95	1.08	0.96	0.95	8.6
England	1.02	1.19	1.28	0.62	1.56	1	0.91	1.06	0.8	0.93	8.5

School questions

Agreement questions:

- ◆ My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account
- ◆ I like going to school
- ◆ My teachers treat me fairly
- ◆ I feel safe at school

Answers were given on a five-point, unipolar scale, with responses ranging from 'I do not agree' to 'Totally agree'.

Satisfaction questions

How satisfied are you with...

- ◆ Other children in your class
- ◆ Your relationship with teachers
- ◆ The things you have learned
- ◆ Your school marks
- ◆ Your school experience
- ◆ Your life as a student

Responses were on a unipolar, 11-point scale from 0-10, with 0 labelled as 'Not at all satisfied' and 10 labelled as 'Totally satisfied'.

Frequency questions:

How often, if at all, in the last month have you been...

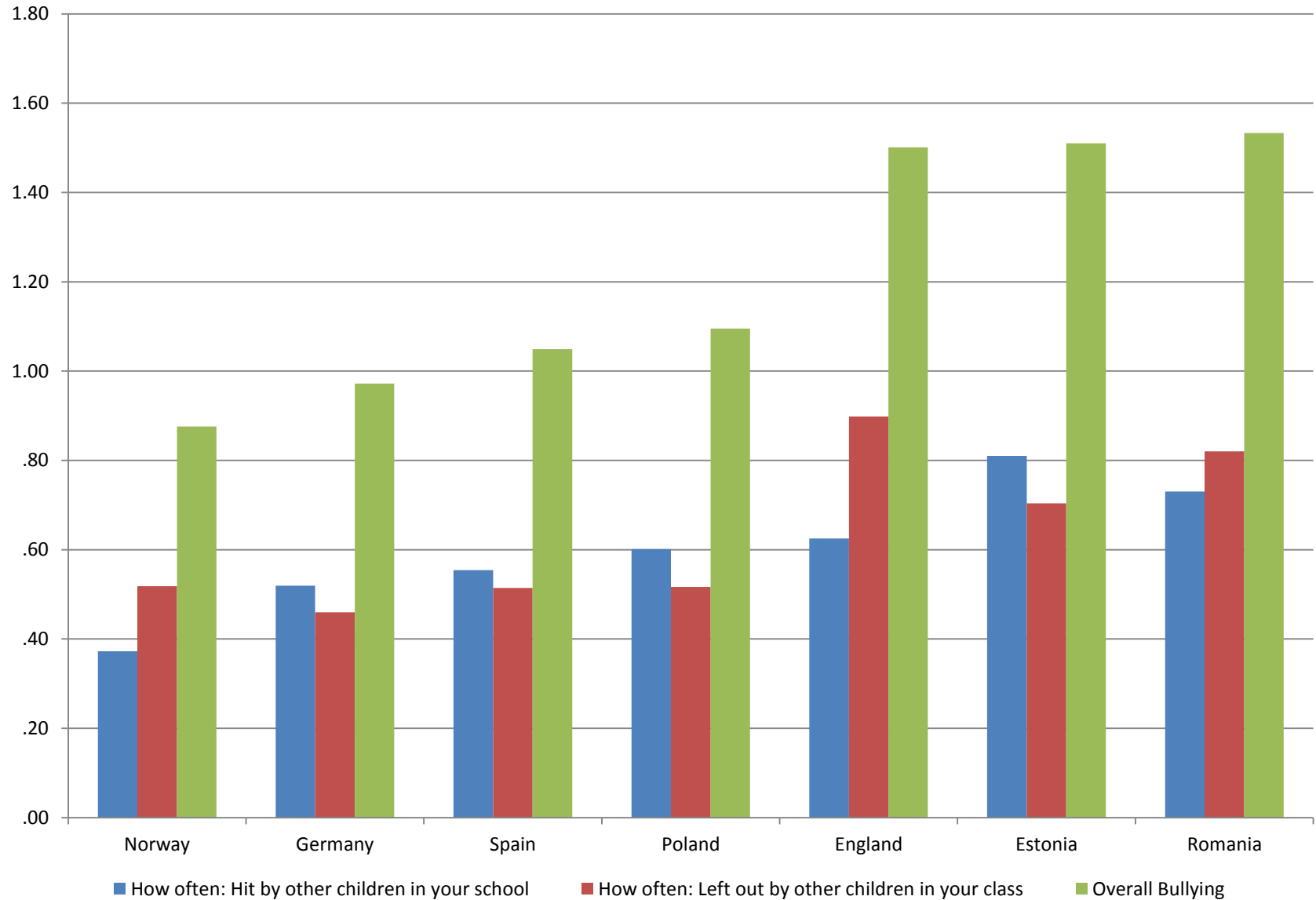
- ◆ Hit by other children in your school
- ◆ Left out by other children in your class

Answers were given on a four-point, frequency scale, with responses ranging from 'Never' to 'More than 3 times'.

School

	Teachers listen	Teachers fair	Safe	Like	Peers	Teachers	Learned	Marks	School experience	Life as a student
Estonia	0.93	0.96	0.95	0.79	0.97	0.98	0.98	0.97	0.98	0.95
Germany	0.97	0.91	0.96	0.84	0.97	0.95	0.97	0.93	0.95	0.94
Norway	0.96	0.96	0.99	0.91	1.03	1	0.96	1.01	1	0.97
Poland*	0.93	0.93	0.97	0.77	0.99	0.91	0.94	0.96	0.97	0.93
Romania	0.96	1.05	1	1.08	0.99	1.01	1	0.99	0.99	1.01
Spain*	1	1	0.99	0.87	1.02	0.98	0.98	0.95	0.97	0.94
UK*	0.99	0.96	1.03	0.84	1	0.94	0.99	1.01	0.99	0.98

Bullying



Satisfaction

	Estonia	Germany	Norway	Poland*	Romania	Spain*	UK*
The house/flat where you live	1.01	1.02	0.98	1.02	0.98	0.99	1.01
The people you live with	1.03	1.02	1	0.99	0.98	1	1.02
All the other people in family	0.95	1.05	1.03		1.01	1.02	1.04
Your family life	1.02	1	0.97	1	0.98	0.99	1
All the things you have	1.02	1.04	1.01	1.03	1	1.03	1.05
Your friends	1.01	1.05	1.01	0.97	0.96	1.02	1.03
Your relationships .. in general	1	1.01	1.02	1.01	0.99	1.01	1.01
The people in your area	1.01	0.95	1.02	1	1	1.04	1
The local police in your area	0.98	1.05			1.04	0.97	1.09
How dealt with at doctors	1	1.02	1.01		0.98	1.03	1
Outdoor areas .. in your area	1	1.01	1.08	1.05	1	1.07	1.02
The area you live in general	1.02	0.93	1.05	1.02	1.02	1.01	1.01
Other children in your class	0.97	0.97	1.03	0.99	0.99	1.02	1
Your school marks	0.97	0.93	1.01	0.96	0.99	0.95	1.01
Your school experience	0.98	0.95	1	0.97	0.99	0.97	0.99
Your life as a student	0.95	0.94	0.97	0.93	1.01	0.94	0.98
Things you have learned	0.98	0.97	0.96	0.94	1	0.98	0.99
Relationship with teachers	0.98	0.95	1	0.91	1.01	0.98	0.94
How you use your time	1.01	1.01	0.96	1.01	1	0.99	1
What do in your free time	1.03	1.03	0.99	1	1	1.01	1.01
Your health	0.99	1.01	0.96	0.99	0.99	1.02	0.99
The way that you look	0.99	0.97	0.94		1.02	1	0.94
Your own body	0.97	0.95	0.92	0.97	1.02	1	0.94
Your self-confidence	1	0.99	0.94	0.98	1.01	1.01	0.92
The freedom you have	0.98	1.04	1.02	1.02	1.02	0.97	1.02
Amount of opportunities ..	1.01	1.02	1.02	0.99	1.01	0.95	1.02
Listened to by adults ..	1.01	1.01	1		1.01	0.99	1.01
How safe you feel	1.01	1	0.99	1.01	1	1	1.01
Things you want to be good at	1.01	0.96	0.94	0.99	1	0.99	0.99
Doing things away from home	1.07	1.06	1.02	1.06	1.03	1.02	1.02
Later in life	1.01	1.08	1.01	1.06	0.99	1.02	0.99

Subjective well-being

- ◆ Satisfaction with life as a whole (cognitive subjective well-being)
- ◆ Frequency of feeling happy in the past two week (affective subjective well-being)
- ◆ Feeling positive about the future (psychological well-being)
- ◆ Measures
 - ◆ Mean satisfaction
 - ◆ Low satisfaction
 - ◆ Mean happiness
 - ◆ Low happiness
 - ◆ Mean future
 - ◆ Low future
 - ◆ Ave rank of above

Subjective well-being

	Life satisfaction mean	Low life satisfaction	Happiness mean	Low happiness	Future mean	Future tail	Mean rank SWB (out of 15)
Romania	9.5	1.1	9.4	1.9	9	4.9	1.33
Norway	8.8	3.5	8.7	4.5	8.8	3	4.67
Spain	8.8	2.4	8.7	3.9	8.4	4.9	5.17
Estonia	8.8	3.4	8	8.1	8.2	5.8	9.00
Germany	8.6	5	8	7.6	8.2	8.1	11.17
Poland	8.4	6.2	8.2	7.8	7.9	10.6	12.50
England	8.4	7.1	8.3	8.9	8.2	7.9	12.50

Domains of well-being correlation with overall SWB

Personal well-being index		Satisfaction with life as a whole	
Future	.752**	Looks	.543**
Health	.690**	Freedom	.516**
Looks	.608**	Health	.506**
Things	.607**	Future	.502**
Freedom	.605**	Family	.496**
School	.542**	School	.433**
Family	.530**	Things	.432**
Area	.513**	Area	.400**
Friends	.490**	Friends	.375**
House	.475**	House	.364**

Conclusion: Surveys of children

- ◆ Give children a voice - as young as eight
- ◆ No EU survey of children
- ◆ HBSC covers all EU countries (except Cyprus) every four years – health behaviour
- ◆ School based surveys easy and quick
- ◆ MYWeB longitudinal survey of children – undergoing feasibility
- ◆ SILC child questionnaire an option
- ◆ Children's Worlds an option

Conclusion: Findings on EU children

- ◆ Well-being varies
- ◆ Children are happy overall
- ◆ Boys happier than girls
- ◆ Become less happy 8 – 12 (and 15)
- ◆ Happier with family, friends, health, material
- ◆ Less happy with school, teachers, body, neighbourhoods
- ◆ Overall well-being a function of these but also important
 - ◆ Deprivation
 - ◆ Bullying
 - ◆ BOTH AMENABLE TO POLICY