



Does school organization matter for children's subjective well-being?

Exploring differences between state-run and state-subsidized schools in Catalonia (Spain)

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Introduction

- Despite the fact of sharing the same curricular contents, because they are determined by the education authorities, **school centres differ in many factors** which might have an influence on how children and adolescent perceive and evaluate different school aspects.
- The **ownership of the school** is one of the factors that most contributes to explain differences among schools, from the procedure through which teachers are recruited to the number of teaching hours.



Contextualisation

- In the Spanish education system, some schools are **state-run**, that is, they receive all the money from the government, and some others are **state-subsidized schools**, that is, despite being private they receive important funding from the government. Only very few schools are functioning under completely private premises in Catalonia.

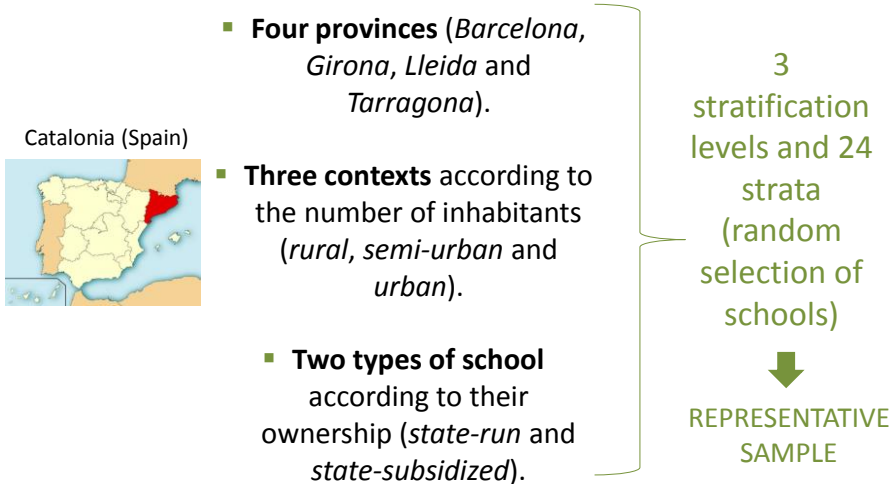


Objective

- To explore to what extent the ownership of the school is related to **perceptions and evaluations** of children and adolescents about **school** - including **school satisfaction** and **school participation** -, and to their **subjective well-being**, taking into account the three age groups in our sample: 8, 10 and 12-year-olds.



Sampling



Analysis

- **8 year-olds'** responses cannot be compared to those of 10 and 12 year-olds' in the case of the instruments to assess SWB and school satisfaction items as different scales were used.
- For the other items, scales used for 8, 10 and 12 are the same.
- Means and percentages, and test of significance as well, have been calculated through **complex sampling analysis**.

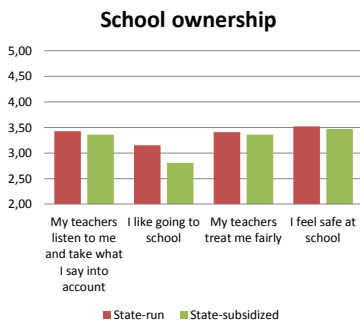


Distribution of the sample by school ownership and age group

		Type of questionnaire			TOTAL
		8 yo- Year 3 primary school	10 yo-Year 5 primary school	12 yo-Year 1 secondary school	
Type of school	State-run	679 (27.47%)	696 (28.16%)	1,097 (44.38%)	2,472 (100%)
	State-subsidized	353 (27.49%)	361 (28.12%)	570 (44.39%)	1,284 (100%)
TOTAL		1,032 (27.48%)	1,057 (28.14%)	1,667 (44.38%)	3,756 (100%)



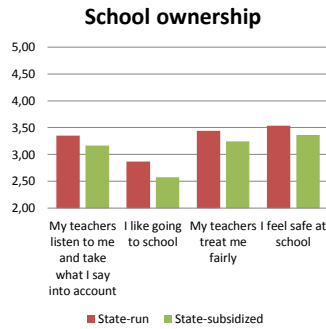
Views about the school (8-year-olds)



	1-5 agreement scale	Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account	State-run	3.43	3.28	3.57	3.43	<.001
	State-subsidized	3.36	3.36	3.36		
I like going to school	State-run	3.15	3.12	3.18	3.15	<.001
	State-subsidized	2.81	2.80	2.81		
My teachers treat me fairly	State-run	3.41	3.34	3.47	3.41	.060
	State-subsidized	3.36	3.30	3.41		
I feel safe at school	State-run	3.52	3.37	3.66	3.52	<.001
	State-subsidized	3.47	3.46	3.48		



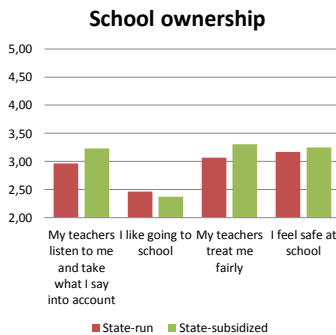
Views about the school (10-year-olds)



1-5 agreement scale		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account	State-run	3.35	3.27	3.43	3.35	<.001
	State-subsidized	3.17	3.12	3.21		
I like going to school	State-run	2.87	2.64	3.09	2.87	<.001
	State-subsidized	2.58	2.50	2.65		
My teachers treat me fairly	State-run	3.44	3.33	3.56	3.44	<.001
	State-subsidized	3.24	3.22	3.27		
I feel safe at school	State-run	3.54	3.43	3.64	3.54	.003
	State-subsidized	3.37	3.29	3.44		



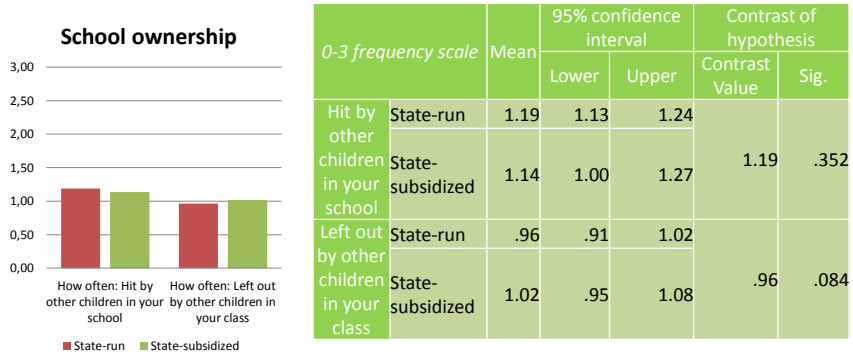
Views about the school (12-year-olds)



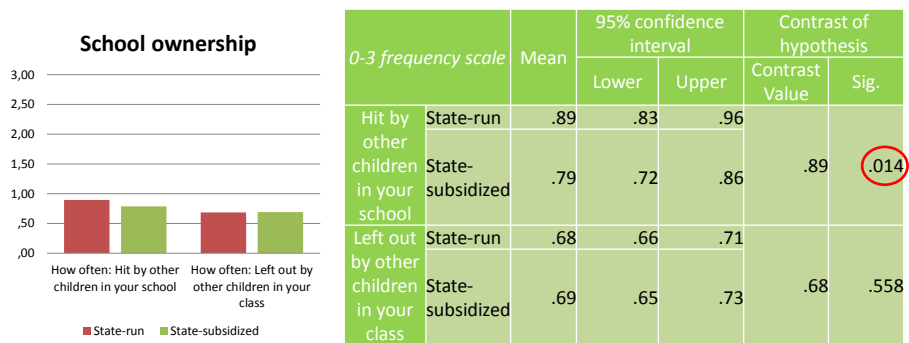
1-5 agreement scale		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account	State-run	2.96	2.83	3.09	2.96	.001
	State-subsidized	3.23	3.15	3.31		
I like going to school	State-run	2.46	2.32	2.60	2.46	.002
	State-subsidized	2.37	2.34	2.41		
My teachers treat me fairly	State-run	3.06	3.00	3.12	3.06	.002
	State-subsidized	3.30	3.21	3.40		
I feel safe at school	State-run	3.17	3.14	3.19	3.17	.035
	State-subsidized	3.25	3.18	3.32		



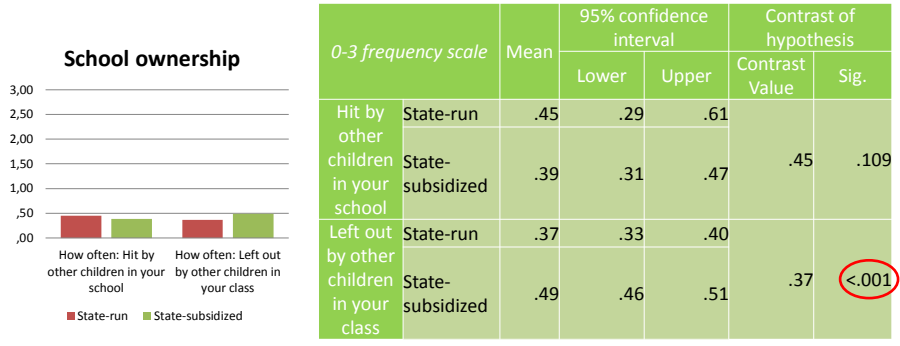
Being bullied (8-year-olds)



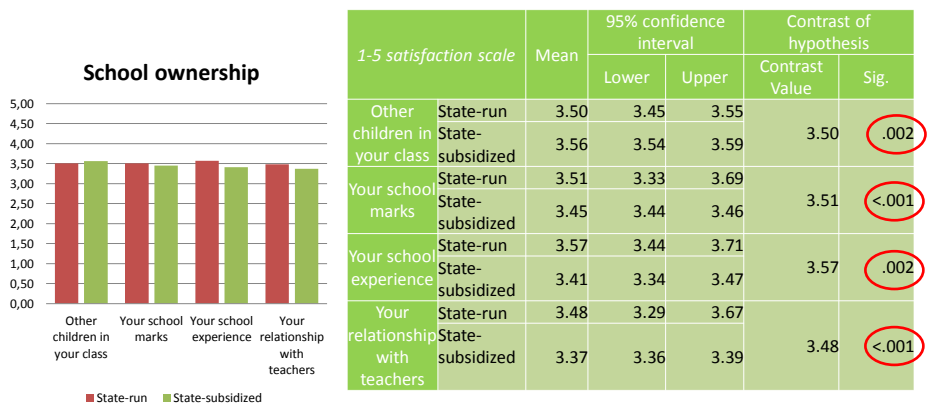
Being bullied (10-year-olds)



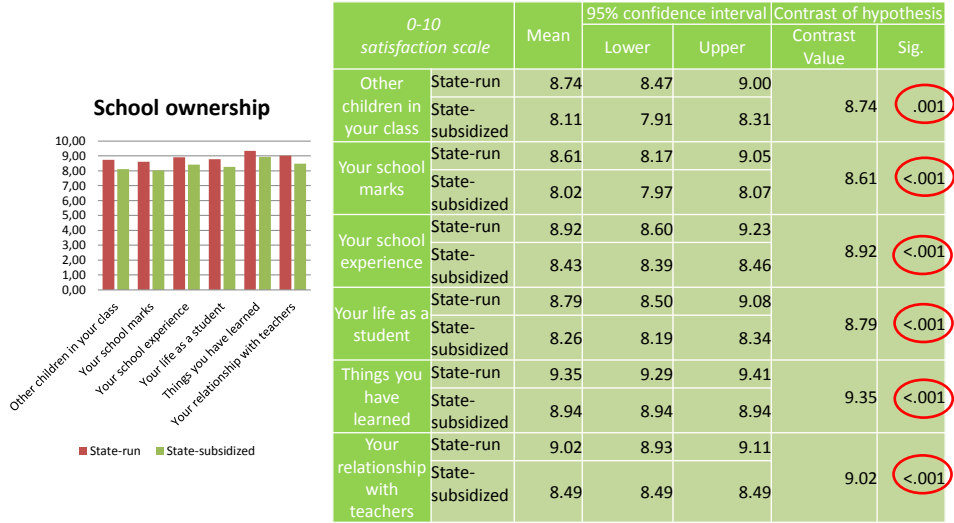
Being bullied (12-year-olds)



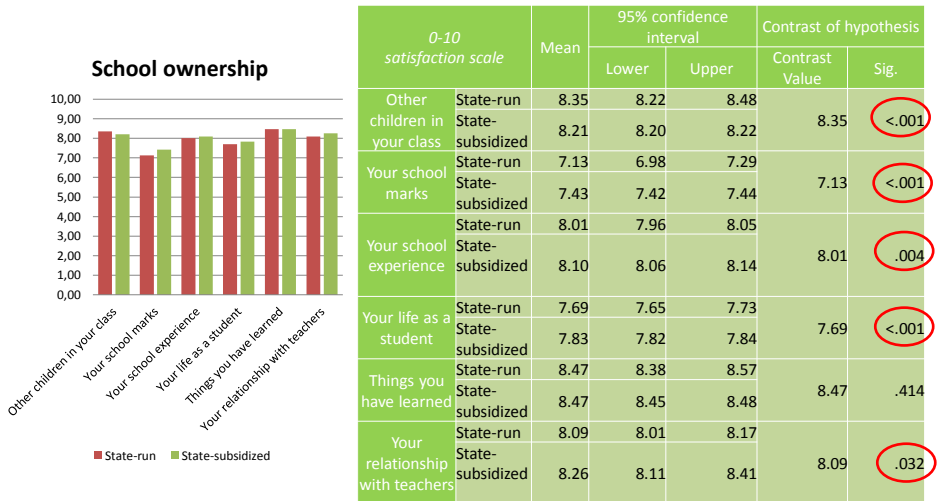
Satisfaction with the school (8-year-olds)



Satisfaction with the school (10-year-olds)



Satisfaction with the school (12 year-olds)

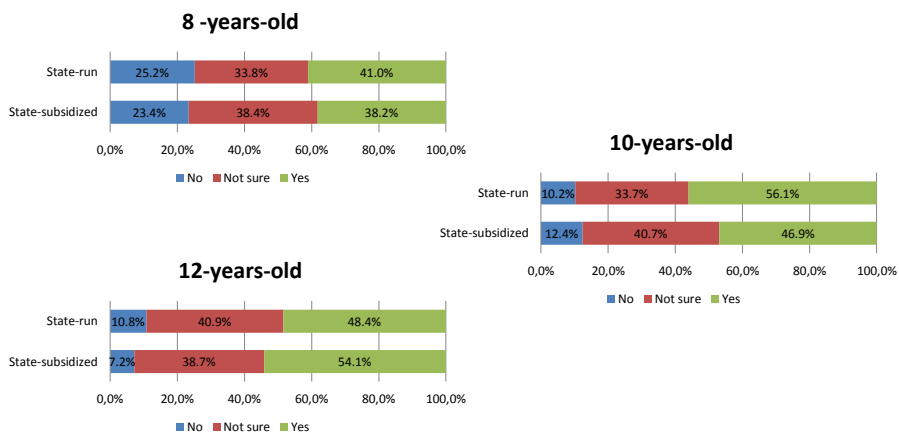


Children’s rights: I know what rights children have by age group and school ownership (I)

	Type of school		%	95% Confidence interval	
				Lower	Upper
8-year-olds	State-run	No	25.2	23.9	26.5
		Not sure	33.8	28.6	39.4
		Yes	41.0	36.8	45.4
	State-subsidized	No	23.4	16.9	31.6
		Not sure	38.4	36.0	40.8
		Yes	38.2	33.4	43.3
10-year-olds	State-run	No	10.2	6.6	15.5
		Not sure	33.7	32.5	34.9
		Yes	56.1	50.5	61.5
	State-subsidized	No	12.4	9.7	15.7
		Not sure	40.7	40.0	41.4
		Yes	46.9	44.6	49.2
12-year-olds	State-run	No	10.8	9.1	12.7
		Not sure	40.9	38.0	43.8
		Yes	48.4	43.7	53.1
	State-subsidized	No	7.2	6.1	8.4
		Not sure	38.7	37.4	40.1
		Yes	54.1	51.6	56.6



Children’s rights: I know what rights children have by age group and school ownership (II)

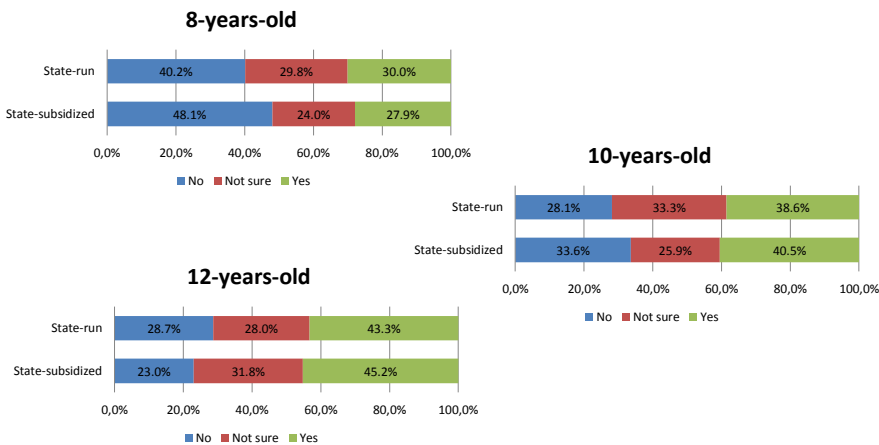


Children’s rights: I know about the CRC by age group and school ownership (I)

	Type of school		%	95% Confidence interval	
				Lower	Upper
8-year-olds	State-run	No	40.2	37.7	42.7
		Not sure	29.8	28.0	31.7
		Yes	30.0	26.1	34.3
	State-subsidized	No	48.1	41.0	55.2
		Not sure	24.0	22.6	25.5
		Yes	27.9	22.5	34.0
10-year-olds	State-run	No	28.1	26.9	29.5
		Not sure	33.3	28.1	38.9
		Yes	38.6	34.3	43.0
	State-subsidized	No	33.6	30.8	36.6
		Not sure	25.9	25.5	26.3
		Yes	40.5	37.2	43.9
12-year-olds	State-run	No	28.7	28.2	29.3
		Not sure	28.0	26.0	30.1
		Yes	43.3	41.6	45.0
	State-subsidized	No	23.0	21.1	24.9
		Not sure	31.8	31.8	31.8
		Yes	45.2	43.4	47.1



Children’s rights: I know about the CRC by age group and school ownership (II)

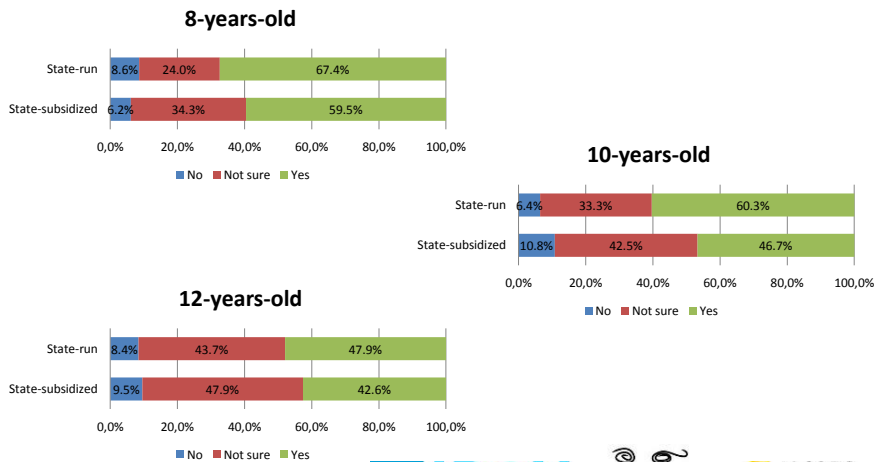


Children’s rights: I think in my country adults in general respect children's rights by age group and school ownership (I)

	Type of school		%	95% Confidence interval	
				Lower	Upper
8-year-olds	State-run	No	8.6	5.5	13.3
		Not sure	24.0	22.5	25.6
		Yes	67.4	64.5	70.2
	State-subsidized	No	6.2	4.6	8.2
		Not sure	34.3	33.7	35.0
		Yes	59.5	57.1	61.9
10-year-olds	State-run	No	6.4	5.8	7.0
		Not sure	33.3	29.1	37.7
		Yes	60.3	55.3	65.1
	State-subsidized	No	10.8	10.1	11.6
		Not sure	42.5	39.6	45.5
		Yes	46.7	44.5	48.9
12-year-olds	State-run	No	8.4	6.5	10.8
		Not sure	43.7	42.4	45.1
		Yes	47.9	44.9	50.9
	State-subsidized	No	9.5	9.1	10.0
		Not sure	47.9	44.9	50.8
		Yes	42.6	39.2	46.0



Children’s rights: I think in my country adults in general respect children's rights by age group and school ownership (II)

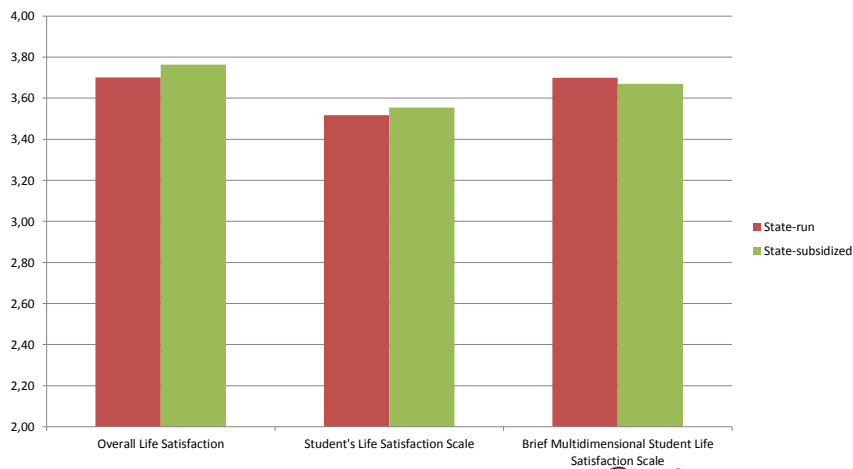


Subjective well-being (8-year-olds)

		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Overall Life Satisfaction (OLS) <i>(0-4 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	3.70	3.65	3.75	3.70	.013
	State-subsidized	3.76	3.72	3.80		
Student's Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS) <i>(0-4 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	3.52	3.49	3.54	3.52	.059
	State-subsidized	3.55	3.51	3.59		
Brief Multidimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale (BMSLSS) <i>(0-4satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	3.70	3.59	3.80	3.70	.043
	State-subsidized	3.67	3.64	3.70		



Subjective well-being (8-year-olds)

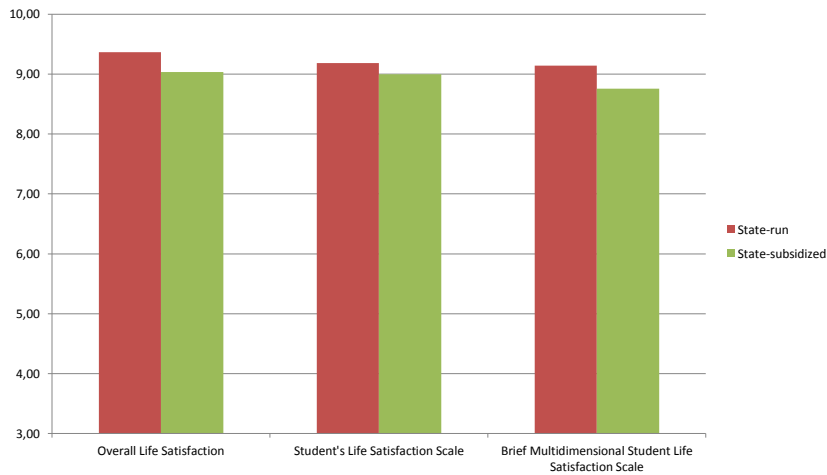


Subjective well-being (10-year-olds)

		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Overall Life Satisfaction (OLS) <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	9.36	9.31	9.41	9.36	<.001
	State-subsidized	9.03	9.01	9.06		
Student's Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS) <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	9.18	9.16	9.21	9.18	.003
	State-subsidized	9.00	8.92	9.07		
Brief Multidimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	9.14	8.97	9.31	9.14	<.001
	State-subsidized	8.76	8.73	8.78		



Subjective well-being (10-year-olds)

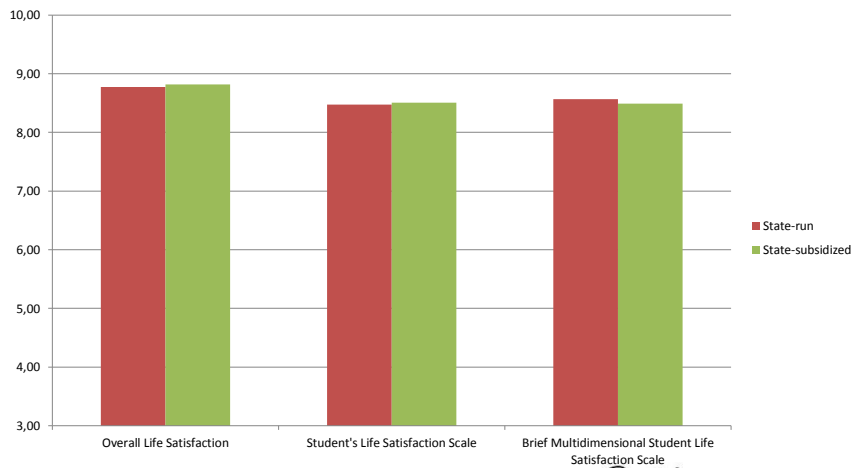


Subjective well-being (12-year-olds)

		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Overall Life Satisfaction (OLS) <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	8.77	8.71	8.83	8.77	.085
	State-subsidized	8.82	8.76	8.87		
Student's Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS) <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	8.47	8.40	8.55	8.47	.114
	State-subsidized	8.51	8.46	8.55		
Brief Multidimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale (BMSLSS) <i>(0-10 satisfaction scale)</i>	State-run	8.57	8.49	8.65	8.57	<.001
	State-subsidized	8.49	8.47	8.51		

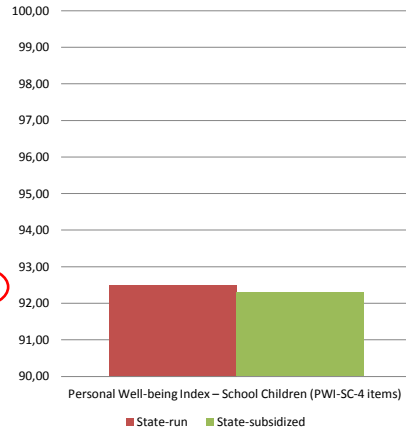


Subjective well-being (12-year-olds)



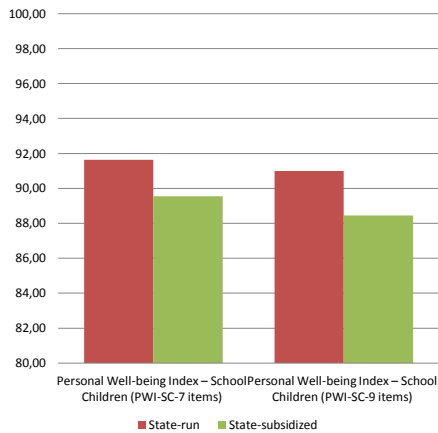
Subjective well-being (8-year-olds)

8-year-olds (0-100 satisfaction scale)		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Personal Well-being Index – School Children (PWI-SC-4 items)	State-run	92.50	90.00	95.00	92.43	.36
	State-subsidized	92.30	91.94	92.66		



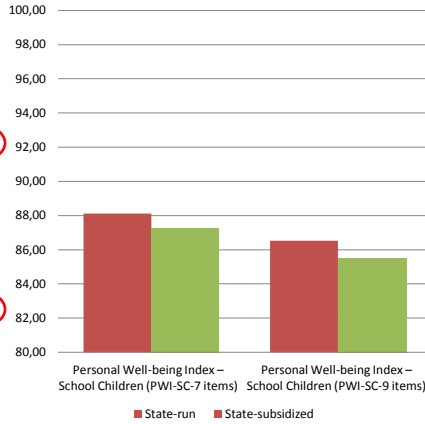
Subjective well-being (10-year-olds)

10-year-olds (0-100 satisfaction scale)		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Personal Well-being Index – School Children (PWI-SC-7 items)	State-run	91.63	90.45	92.80	91.63	<.001
	State-subsidized	89.54	89.13	89.96		
Personal Well-being Index – School Children (PWI-SC-9 items)	State-run	90.99	89.81	92.17	90.99	<.001
	State-subsidized	88.44	87.97	88.92		



Subjective well-being (12-year-olds)

12-year-olds (0-100 satisfaction scale)		Mean	95% confidence interval		Contrast of hypothesis	
			Lower	Upper	Contrast Value	Sig.
Personal Well-being Index – School Children (PWI-SC-7 items)	State-run	88.12	87.03	89.22	88.12	.008
	State-subsidized	87.27	86.79	87.75		
Personal Well-being Index – School Children (PWI-SC-9 items)	State-run	86.52	85.36	87.67	86.52	.004
	State-subsidized	85.54	85.10	85.99		



Summary (I): Views about the school

1-5 agreement scale	8-year-olds	10-year-olds	12-year-olds
My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account	↑State-run	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized
I like going to school	↑State-run	↑State-run	↑State-run
My teachers treat me fairly	-	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized
I feel safe at school	↑State-run	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized



Summary (II): Being bullied

0-3 frequency scale	8-year-olds	10-year-olds	12-year-olds
Hit by other children in your school	-	↑State-run	-
Left out by other children in your class	-	-	↑State-subsidized



Summary (III): Satisfaction with the school

1-5 satisfaction scale	8-year-olds	0-10 satisfaction scale	10-year-olds	12-year-olds
Other children in your class	↑State-subsidized	Other children in your class	↑State-run	↑State-run
Your school marks	↑State-run	Your school marks	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized
Your school experience	↑State-run	Your school experience	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized
Your relationship with teachers	↑State-run	Your life as a student	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized
		Things you have learned	↑State-run	-
		Your relationship with teachers	↑State-run	↑State-subsidized



Summary (IV): Children's rights

No/Not sure/Yes	8-year-olds	10-year-olds	12-year-olds
I know what rights children have	-	↑State-subsidized (Not sure) ↑State-run (Yes)	↑ State-run (No)
I know about the CRC	↑State-run (Not sure)	↑State-run (Not sure) ↑State-subsidized (No)	↑State-subsidized (Not sure) ↑State-run (No)
I think in my country adults in general respect children's rights	↑State-subsidized (Not sure) ↑State-run (Yes)	↑State-subsidized (No) ↑State-subsidized (Not sure) ↑State-run (Yes)	-



Summary (V): Subjective well-being

	8-year-olds	10-year-olds	12-year-olds
OLS	↑State-subsidized	↑State-run	-
SLSS	-	↑State-run	-
BMLSS	↑State-run	↑State-run	↑State-run
PWI-SC-4	↑State-run		
PWI-SC-7		↑State-run	↑State-run
PWI-SC-9		State-run	State-run



Discussion (I)

- Children aged **8 and 10 attending state-run schools have a more positive perception of their school and are more satisfied with it**, compared to state-subsidized attendants of the same age groups. This is also true for **adolescents aged 12 enrolled in state-subsidized schools**.



In the Spanish education system, children enrolled in the state-run system generally have to move at the age of 12 to a bigger school not always located in the same municipality. This does not usually happen in the case of state-subsidized schools.



Discussion (II)

- **Children attending state-run schools** express to have, in general, a **higher SWB** in all age groups, although for some scales no differences between kind of school were identified. Do the different dynamics of each type of school may be a contributing factor?
- Small differences exist in the questions about **being bullied** between participants attending state-run and state-subsidized schools.
- No clear pattern is identified in relation to the items about **children's rights**.

