

Children's Worlds National Report

ALBANIA



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1. Introduction

1.1 Context and population

Albania is an independent state in Southeast Europe. It lies on the southwest of the Balkan Peninsula and borders with Montenegro in the northwest, Kosovo in the northeast, the Republic of Macedonia in the west, and Greece in the south. The Adriatic and Ionian Seas lie in the west, and through the Otranto Channel, it is only 78 km away from Italy. Albania has a surface area of 28.748 km². Albanian population on January 1st 2019 was 2 870 324 inhabitants¹. Children from 0 to 19 years old compose 14.3% of the total population. The group of 10-14 years old children compose 3.7% of the total population (107 351).

Regarding religion, according to the latest population census of 2011, 56% of Albanians have reported to be Muslims, 10.3% Catholics, 6.8% Christian orthodox, 2.09% Bektashi, 0.14% Evangelists, 0.07 other Christians, 5.49% have reported to be Believers without denomination (that do believe but do not practice any religion) 2.5% atheists, 13.7% preferred not to answer. Other recent studies report that more than one third (37%) consider themselves as someone who practices religion (Vurmo et al 2018²).

In general Albania is a homogenous ethnic community with 82.6% of the total population being Albanians. There are also other minorities including Greek 0.87%, Macedonians 0.2%, Montenegrins 0.01%, Aromanian 0.30%, Roma 0.30%, Egyptians 0.12%. In the latest population registration (Census, 2011)³ 14% of the remaining population registered preferred not to answer.

In 1991 Albania changed its system from communism to democracy and since then has made remarkable economic progress. According to World Bank, Albania's Gross Domestic Product *per capita* in 2019⁴ is \$5.448 and has been growing since the economic crisis of 2008. According to the EU progress report, 2019, Albania has made some progress and is moderately prepared in developing a functioning market economy. Economic growth increased further and unemployment decreased but remains still high, from 16% in 2016 to 13% in 2018.⁵ Inequality also remains high in Albania, as the GINI index was reported to be 29 for 2012, according to the development indicators collected by World Bank.⁶

1.2 Sampling: Strategy and outcome

The Albanian sample was designed to have a national representative sample for two of the age groups, the 10-year olds (fourth grade) and 12-year olds (sixth grade) with an aim to achieve 1000 children per each age group.

First national data on the schools per each region and the number of children per each school. The data gathered were grouped per each region, 13 regions, and sample proportional to size were calculated. Then the sample within each region was divided per gender, urban- rural divide, public and private school.

Tab. Sample calculation

Region	Percentage				Sample		
	Stratum	Girls	Urban	Private schools	Number of questionnaires per age group	Number of questionnaires plus 20%	Number of questionnaires for both age groups
Berat	4.7	47.8	47.1	2.9	47	57	114
Dibra	5.6	46.4	31.5	0.4	56	68	136
Durrës	10.2	46.8	57.4	6.5	102	121	242
Elbasan	10.2	47.9	40.8	1.5	102	121	242
Fier	10.7	47	39.5	6.1	107	128	256
Gjirokastra	2.1	48.0	63.7	5.5	21	50	100
Korça	6.9	47.3	42.7	4	69	83	166
Kukës	3.8	46.0	36.3	0	38	46	92
Lezha	5	46.8	48.6	5.7	50	58	116
Shkodra	7.6	47.6	49.1	10.9	76	92	184
<i>Tirana*</i>	11.5	47.8	36.5	1.1	115	139	278
<i>Tirana City</i>	15.7	47.4	100	12.6	157	189	378
Vlore	6	47.6	67.2	7.5	60	72	144
Total	100	47.3	53.9	5.7	1000	1224	2448

*includes: District of Tirana, Kavaja and Kamza

A list of schools in urban and rural areas, public and private was organized per each region. Within each division were randomly selected the schools also considering the size and location of the school (within the list of urban schools in one region they were also grouped by geographical distribution and size)

One class per each age group was selected in each of the selected schools.

Considering the variety of the size of the classes we agreed also to select 20 students per each class, the first 20 students in the class register.

Active parental consents were distributed to each of the selected children. After parents approval the group of the trained interviewers accompanied by the supervisor directed the fulfilment of the questionnaire in a friendly and private environment within the school. The data were cleaned and weighted.

2. Results

2.1 The participants

2334 children participated in the survey of children wellbeing in Albania. Since we used sampling with probability proportional to size, these data are representative to the population of children addressed in terms of age group, gender and region. The age range varied from 8 to 14 years old. The data below are grouped by age group which represent the 4th (10 years old) and 6th (12 years old) grades.

Age by gender (Numbers, (%))

	10-year-old	12-year-old	Total
Boy	593 (50.6)	576 (49.5)	1169
Girl	579 (49.4)	586 (50.5)	1165
Total	1172	1162	2334

2.2 The home and the people children live with.

Almost all children participating lived with their family (99.2% of the 10 years old and 98.9% of the 12 years old). Few children (0.7% of the 10 years old and 0.9% of the 12 years old) lived in a foster home and less than 0.2% of the 12 years old lived in children's home or in another type of home.

Home type (%)

	10-year-old	12-year-old
I live with my family	99.2	98.9
I live in a foster home	.7	.9
I live in a children's home	.0	.1
I live in another type of home	.0	.1

Children were asked about their level of satisfaction with the people they live with. More than 90% of children were satisfied with the people they lived. Very few differences were evident between the two age groups. 10 years old were 1.1% totally satisfied higher than the other group. We noticed almost the same pattern between the unsatisfied children for both age groups.

How satisfied are you with the people that you live with? (%)

	0	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 year old	.2	.0	.3	1.4	.2	.2	.2	.9	2.5	94.1
12 year old	.2	.1	.3	1.0	.1	.2	.6	1.1	3.6	93.0
Total	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.0	3.1	93.6

Six main indicators were used to evaluate the family domain in a scale from 4= *strongly agree* and 0= *strongly disagree*. On overall children evaluated their families in all indicators above mean. Children evaluated their families in higher rates for Safety, Good time together, support and care, while values for respect and participation were lower. In all indicators 10 years olds had a lower mean. Using independent sample t test those

differences resulted statistically significant in care, support, good time together and respect, parents listen. Also, differences resulted among boys and girls, with girls reporting higher mean values for care, respect and participation. While boys and girls report similar perceptions in relation to spending good time together with the family and having support from their family.

Variations in questions about home and family (Means)

	Family care	Family help problem	Good time together	Feel safe	Parents listen	Make joint decision
10 yrs.	3.65	3.74	3.75	3.80	3.31	3.44
12 yrs.	3.79	3.82	3.80	3.89	3.39	3.48
Total	3.72	3.78	3.78	3.84	3.35	3.46

2.3 The home where children live

89.4% of all children interviewed stated they were totally satisfied with their house or flat they lived with. Small differences were accounted between the age groups. On average values 10-year old were more satisfied with their house M=9.77 than the 12 years old M=9.66. Small insignificant differences in mean values resulted between boys and girls with boys on average being less satisfied than girls.

Satisfaction with the house or flat where you live (%)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 yrs.	0	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.2	1.8	3.9	91.3
12 yrs.	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.1	1	3	5.9	87.5
Total	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.45	0.2	0.35	0.25	1.1	2.4	4.9	89.4

39.6% of the children have their own room and the rest share their room with other people. There were few differences between age groups. We controlled also for gender differences and small differences were accounted between boys and girls. 88.3% of the children have their own bed while 8.9% share their bed with others and 2.7% do not have a bed. Small differences were also noticed between age groups. Around 2% more of the older children have their own bed and around 2% less shares their bed.

Things you have (%)

<i>Own room</i>	10 years old	12 years old	total
Own room	38.2	40.9	39.6
Share room with other people	61.8	59.1	60.4
<i>Own bed</i>			
Own bed	87	89.6	88.3
Share the bed	10.3	7.6	8.9
no bed	2.7	2.8	2.7
<i>Place to study</i>			
Yes	87.6	92.4	90.0
No	8.9	4.9	6.9
Not sure	3.6	2.8	3.2

2.4 Friends

Children were asked about their relationships with their friends. In a scale 0 = *not at all satisfied* to 10 = *totally satisfied*, 73.7% of the children were totally satisfied with their friends. 10 years old children composed a higher percentage of the totally satisfied children (81.2%) to 12 years old children (66.1%). A small percentage of children, 0.2% were not at all satisfied. Controlled by gender girls composed a higher percentage of being totally satisfied with their friends (76%) to boys (70.1%). Also 0.3% of all boys and 0.1% of all girls were completely unsatisfied with their friends. Compared within each gender group older girls (84.6% of the 10 years compared to 68.1% of 12 years old girls) and older boys (77.6% of the 10 years compared to 64% of 12 years old boys) were less satisfied with their friends. With age children seem to be less satisfied with their friends.

Satisfaction with: Your friends (%)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 yrs.	.2	.1	.3	.2	.4	1.0	.3	1.5	3.3	11.7	81.2
12 yrs.	.1	0	0	.2	.6	1.4	1.0	3.5	6.4	20.7	66.1
Total	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.2	0.7	2.5	4.9	16.2	73.7

Children were asked four more questions related to their friends. The lowest percentage of totally satisfied children is for the questions '*my friends are usually nice to me*' (68.3%) with the 12 years old children being less satisfied (61%). 77.2% of the children totally agreed that their friends would support them if they had a problem, 12 years old children had a slightly higher percentage 77.9% 76.5% of the 10 years old.

10 years old children seem to have more friends (71.2%) than the 12-year-old children (67.3%), and get along well with their friends 77.1% to 69.6% of the 12 years old.

Views about friends (%)

		I do not agree	Agree a little bit	Agree somewhat	Agree a lot	Totally agree
I have enough friends	10 yrs.	5.4	2.8	4.7	15.8	71.2
	12 yrs.	4.9	2	7.1	18.8	67.3
	total	5.2	2.4	5.9	17.3	69.3
My friends are usually nice to me	10 yrs.	2.7	2.3	8.2	20.3	66.5
	12 yrs.	1.2	3.6	9.2	25.1	61
	total	2.0	3.0	8.7	22.7	63.8
Me and my friends get along well together	10 yrs.	0.7	1.3	4.8	16.1	77.1
	12 yrs.	0.4	1.1	7.9	21	69.6
	total	2.8	2.3	7.1	19.6	68.2
If I have a problem, I have a friend who will support me	10 yrs.	2.6	2	5.1	13.8	76.5
	12 yrs.	2.5	1.7	5.9	12	77.9
	total	2.6	1.9	5.5	12.9	77.2

When controlled by gender data showed that girls composed higher percentage in all questions in totally satisfied option, bigger differences were found in questions 'my friends are usually nice to me', 66.5% to 61.1%, 'if I have a problem my friends will support me', 82.3% of the girls and 72.2% of the boys.

2.5 School

Asked about their satisfaction with their school life 87.8% of the children stated to be totally satisfied with 'the things they have learned' (91.3% of the 10 years old and 84.3% of the 12 years old), 82.4% were totally satisfied with their life as a student (88.7% of the 10 years old and 76% of the 12 years old). Children stated to be less satisfied with 'other children in their class' 66.7% were totally satisfied (74.9% of the 10 years old and 58.5% of the 12 years old). Gender comparisons showed that girls were in general more satisfied than boys in all three questions ('life as a student' 70.8% of the boys and 81.2% of the girls, 'things you have learned' 79.7% of the boys 88.7% of the girls). Smaller differences between boys and girls were noted in the level of satisfaction with 'other children in their class' (57.1 % of the boys and 59.9% of the girls were totally satisfied)

Satisfaction with school life (%)

<i>Satisfaction with...</i>		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Your life as a student	10 yrs.	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	2	7.1	88.7
	12 yrs.	0.1	0	0	0	0.4	1.8	1.1	0.8	6	13.8	76
	Total	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.7	4	10.5	82.4
Things you have learned	10 yrs.	0.3	0.1	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.6	5.6	91.3
	12 yrs.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	1.1	2.2	10.8	84.3
	Total	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.8	1.9	8.2	87.8
Other children in your class	10 yrs.	0.4	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.8	1.1	5.5	15.9	74.9
	12 yrs.	0.6	0	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.9	1.8	3.2	10.7	22.3	58.5
	Total	0.5	0	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.5	1.3	2.15	8.1	19.1	66.7

Children views about their school were in overall positive, although considerable differences were encountered between age groups in different questions. 78.4% of children were totally agree of feeling safe at school (82.5% of the 10-year olds and 74.3% of the 12-year olds), 76% totally agreed with 'teachers care about me' (81.7% of the 10 years old and 70.2% of the 12-year olds) and 76.7% totally agreed with 'if I have a problem at school teachers will help' (80.1% of the 10 year olds and 73.3% of the 12 year olds).

Views about school (%)

		I do not agree	Agree a little bit	Agree somewhat	Agree a lot	Totally agree
My teachers care about me	10 yrs.	0.9	0.4	2.9	14.1	81.7
	12 yrs.	0.9	1.0	6.0	21.8	70.2
	Total	0.9	0.7	4.5	18.0	76.0
If I have a problem at school my teachers will help me	10 yrs.	0.5	0.9	2.9	15.5	80.1
	12 yrs.	0.9	0.7	5.6	19.5	73.3
	Total	0.7	0.8	4.3	17.5	76.7
If I have a problem at school other children will help me	10 yrs.	3.3	3.6	13.6	26.4	53.1
	12 yrs.	2.5	5.2	16.3	25.7	50.3
	Total	2.9	4.4	15.0	26.1	51.7
There are a lot of arguments between children in my class	10 yrs.	46.5	18.5	14.5	6.8	13.7
	12 yrs.	35.2	20.8	17.5	11.4	14.9
	Total	40.9	19.7	16.0	9.1	14.3
My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account	10 yrs.	3.6	2.6	7.4	19.5	67.0
	12 yrs.	2.1	2.7	6.8	24.1	64.2
	Total	2.9	2.7	7.1	21.8	65.6
At school I have opportunities to make decisions about things that are important to me	10 yrs.	9.2	3.6	12.9	18.5	55.9
	12 yrs.	4.5	3.2	12.1	21.1	59.1
	Total	6.9	3.4	12.5	19.8	57.5
I feel safe at school	10 yrs.	1.4	1.0	4.4	10.6	82.5
	12 yrs.	1.2	1.8	6.5	16.3	74.3
	Total	1.3	1.4	5.5	13.5	78.4

Children agreed less with being listened to by their teachers, 65.6% totally agreed (67% of the 10-year olds and 64.2% of the 12-year olds), and having the opportunity to participate in decision making about things of interest for them 57.5% (55.9% of the 10 year olds and 59.1% of the 12 year olds).

Lowest percentage of children of totally agree for both age groups were seen at other children support. Only half of the children, 51,7% (53.1% of the 10-year olds and 50.3% of the 12-year olds) were totally agreed that they would have support from other children if they had a problem. Meanwhile 14.3% of all children totally agree with the statement *'there are a lot of arguments between children in my class'* (13.7% of the 10-year olds and 14.9% of the 12-year olds).

Controlled for gender differences, it was noticeable that girls have more positive views on their school than boys for all above statements. Girls were totally agreed 8.3% more in being listened to by their teachers and 7.8% more girls totally agreed with the statement '*I feel safe at school*'. Smaller differences were noted in other questions. Gender differences were constant even among age groups.

Bullying (%)

How often have you ...		Never	Once	Two or 3 times	More than three times
Hit by other children in your school	10 yrs.	82.3	10.5	3.7	3.6
	12 yrs.	83.5	9.7	3.7	2.9
	Total	82.9	10.1	3.7	3.25
Called unkind names by other children in your school	10 yrs.	80.9	9.7	3.3	6.1
	12 yrs.	79.2	10.7	4.9	5.1
	Total	80.1	10.2	4.1	5.6
Left out by other children in your class	10 yrs.	89.3	6.3	1.8	2.7
	12 yrs.	90.9	5	2.4	1.3
	Total	90.1	5.65	2.1	2

90.1% of all children have never been left out by other children, 80.1% have never been called unkind names by their friends in school and 82.9% have never been hit by other children. We notice age group differences between the children being bullied *more than three times*, the children of the 10-year olds group compose a higher percentage in all three statements. Controlled for gender differences girls in general report less bullying experiences in both age groups compared to boys.

2.6 The area where children live

54.8% of all children were totally satisfied with the area they live. 10-year-old report to be more satisfied 60%, to 12-year-old, 49.5%. Small gender differences, with girls being slightly more satisfied than boys were noticed.

Satisfaction with: The area where you live (%)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 yrs.	2.4	0.6	0.3	1.4	1.1	2.2	1.8	4.4	9.4	16.3	60.0
12 yrs.	2.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.4	3.3	2.1	6.2	13.0	19.1	49.5
Total	2.6	0.7	0.6	1.2	1.3	2.8	2.0	5.3	11.2	17.7	54.8

59.3% of all children totally agreed with the statement 'adults in my local area are kind to children' (61.8% of the 10 year olds and 56.8% of the 12 year olds), 54.9% feel safe when they walk in the area they live, with no differences between age groups, 52.5% totally agree that there are enough places to play or to have a good time in their local area (59.5% of the 10 year olds and 45.5% of the 12 year olds). Children were less satisfied with being respected from adults in the local area where they lived 47.8% (49% of the 10-year olds and 46.6% of the 12-year olds) and participation in decision making about things of their interest, 38.2% (41.3% of the 10-year olds and 35.1% of the 12-year olds). As in most of previous sections 12-year olds seem less satisfied than the 10-year-old group of children.

Compared by gender girls feel less safe when they walk in their area, 6% less girls totally agree with the statement, and 4% less girls totally agree of having opportunities to participate in taking decisions of interest to them.

Views about local area (%)

		I do not agree	Agree a little bit	Agree somewhat	Agree a lot	Totally agree
I feel safe when I walk in the area I live in	10 yrs.	4.8	4.5	13.4	22.4	54.9
	12 yrs.	3.8	5.1	12.4	23.3	54.9
	Total	4.3	4.8	12.9	22.9	54.9
In my area there are enough places to play or to have a good time	10 yrs.	8.8	6.3	9.8	15.5	59.5
	12 yrs.	13.5	9.3	15.1	16.1	45.5
	Total	11.2	7.8	12.5	15.8	52.5
If I have a problem there are people in my local area who will help me	10 yrs.	7.1	5.4	11.1	19.5	56.9
	12 yrs.	7.9	7.2	12.7	21.1	50.9
	Total	7.5	6.3	11.9	20.3	53.9
Adults in my local area are kind to children	10 yrs.	5.1	4.2	10.4	18.5	61.8
	12 yrs.	4.3	5.9	12.5	20.1	56.8
	Total	4.7	5.1	11.5	19.3	59.3
In my local area, I have opportunities to participate in decisions about things that are important to me	10 yrs.	12	5.4	13.5	20.2	49
	12 yrs.	12	6.3	13.7	21.2	46.6
	Total	12.0	5.9	13.6	20.7	47.8
Adults in my area listen to children and take them seriously	10 yrs.	12.3	8.7	17.9	19.8	41.3
	12 yrs.	12.2	9.6	20.8	22.1	35.1
	Total	12.3	9.2	19.4	21.0	38.2

2.7 Money and the things children have

10.6% of all children always worry about how much money their family has (10.4% of the 10-year-old and 10.7% of the 12-year-old) and 53.3% never worry about how much money their family has (56.2% of the 10-year-old and 50.3% of the 12-year-old). As it could be seen from the data in the table older children tend to worry more on family money. Slight differences were found also between boys and girls with girls reporting more often to worry about family money.

How often do you worry about how much money your family has... (%)

	10 yrs.	12 yrs.	Total
Never	56.2	50.3	53.3
Sometimes	24.7	27.8	26.3
Often	8.7	11.1	9.9
Always	10.4	10.7	10.6

83.5% of all children are satisfied with the things they have. 10-year olds report to be more satisfied, 88.2% than the 12 year olds 78.7%. No differences were found between boys and girls

Satisfaction with: The things you have (%)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 yrs.	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.9	6.6	88.2
12 yrs.	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.2	1.9	4.0	11.2	78.7
Total	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.3	1.2	3.0	8.9	83.5

Only 0.2% of children report to never have enough food to eat each day, 3% report to have sometimes, 2.3% have answered often and 94.5% have answered always have enough food to eat every day. No big differences were found among age groups or gender.

Do you have enough food to eat each day? (%)

	10-year-old	12-year-old	Total
Never	.1	.3	.2
Sometimes	3.7	2.2	3.0
Often	2.2	2.4	2.3
Always	94.0	95.1	94.5

98.9% of children report to have enough clothes in good conditions to go to school, 96.5% have the necessary equipment/things to go to school, 96.4% have two pair of shoes in good conditions, 94.4% have enough money to go to school trips, 89% have pocket money to spend for themselves, 87% have access to internet.

Among the things children reported not to have were mobile phone, 24.5% for both age groups, equipment for sports or hobbies 18% and access to internet 13%.

Gender differences revealed interesting. There were no differences among children that had access to items, but significant differences were found among the group of children

with no access to items. 10% more girls didn't have mobile phone, 8.4% more girls didn't have sport and hobbies equipment and 5.6% more girls didn't have access to internet.

The things children have (%)

	10-year-old		12-year-old		Total	
	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Clothes in good condition to go to school	0.6	99.4	1.6	98.4	1.1	98.9
Enough money for school trips and activities	5.8	94.2	5.5	94.5	5.7	94.4
Access to the Internet	13.9	86.1	12.2	87.8	13.1	87.0
Equipment/things for sports and hobbies	18.0	82.0	18.5	81.5	18.3	81.8
Pocket money / money to spend on yourself	13.5	86.5	8.5	91.5	11.0	89.0
Two pairs of shoes in good condition	3.6	96.4	3.6	96.4	3.6	96.4
Mobile phone	24.5	75.5	24.2	75.8	24.4	75.7
Equipment/things you need for school	4.5	95.5	2.5	97.5	3.5	96.5

Two different scales were used to measure material and economic circumstances. We included both scales in our survey and below we are presenting the results of both.

Material and economic circumstances scale A.

Family material and economic circumstances were an important part of the questionnaire. Two different scales were used to measure the material access to items. 89.9% of children reported to have electricity in their homes, running water. 89.7% and a toilet that flushes, 82.7%

Does your home have (%)

Electricity	
All of the time	89.9
Some of the time	7.9
Not at all	1.9
Running water	
Yes	89.7
No	5.9
Not sure	4.4
A toilet that flushes	
Yes	82.7
No	8.9
Not sure	8.4

While most of the children reported to have in their homes television, 99.3%, fridge 97.2% and telephone/mobile phone, 95%, fewer children had a computer, 79.7%, a family car/van/motorbike, 71.5% and even less reported to have a radio 46.8%, which we think is not a material deprivation but mostly the radio is being less and less used as a separate equipment, but is mostly listened in the car.

Descriptive statistics on family's material possessions (%)

	Yes (%)
A computer (including laptops and tablets)	79.7
A television	99.3
A fridge/freezer	97.2
A radio	46.8
A telephone (landline or mobile)	95.4
A family car / van / motorbike / etc.	71.5

Material and economic circumstances scale B

A second scale that measures family material possessions was used in the questionnaire. Children were asked for the number of bathrooms (57% has one bathroom and 32.8% have two), if they sleep in an own room (39.6% sleep in their own room), if they have a family car (32% doesn't have a family car, van or truck), if they have a washing machine (99.6% has), if they have computer (18.8% has none), if they travel for holiday with their family (7.3% not at all, 12.9% once, 16.3% twice, 63.5% more than twice).

Descriptive statistics on family's material possessions (%)

How many bathrooms are in your home?	
None	0.8
One	57.0
Two	32.8
More than two	9.4
Do you sleep in your own room or do you share a room?	
I sleep in a room on my own	39.6
I sleep in a room that I share with other people	60.5
Does your family own a car, van or truck?	
No	32.1
One	45.7
Two	14.5
Three or more	7.8
In the last 12 months, how many times did you travel away on holiday with your family?	
Not at all	7.3
Once	12.9
Twice	16.3
More than twice	63.5
How many computers do your family own?	
None	18.8
One	35.1
Two	24.3
More than two	22
Does your home have a washing machine?	
No	0.5
Yes	99.6

2.8 Time use

Children were asked several questions related to how they use their time and how satisfied they are with that. 78.9% of children are totally satisfied with how they use their time and 74.2% are totally satisfied with how much free time they have. Younger children seem to be more satisfied with both questions

Satisfaction with time use (%)

Satisfaction with:		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
How you use your time	10 yrs.	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.5	2.7	11.4	83.8
	12 yrs.	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.8	2.7	5.2	15	74
	Total	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.6	4.0	13.2	78.9
How much free time you have	10 yrs.	0.3	0	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.8	0.7	1.8	3.4	13.4	78.5
	12 yrs.	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.5	3	6.4	16.2	69.9
	Total	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.1	2.4	4.9	14.8	74.2

2.9 Subjective well-being: how children feel about their lives:

OLS (Overall Subjective Well-Being)

Different scales were used to assess children subjective wellbeing. Descriptive data will be presented below for each of them. On a one item scale children were asked on their level of satisfaction with their life as a whole. 88.3% of all children are totally satisfied with their life (90.6% of the 10-year olds and 86% of the 12-year olds)

Satisfaction with: Your life as a whole (%)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 yrs.	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	1.1	1.1	6.4	90.6
12 yrs.	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.7	9.6	86.0
Total	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.1	1.4	8.0	88.3

CW-SWBS (Children's Worlds Subjective Well-Being Scale)

Based on the Student life satisfaction scale used by Hubner (1991) was calculated the subjective wellbeing scale. The scale is composed of 6 items including children perceptions on their life. In a descending order, 89.2% of children totally agreed with the statements 'I am happy with my life' and 'I like my life', 88.3% with 'I have a good life', 83.9% with 'I enjoy my life', 83.8% with 'My life is going well' and a smaller proportion totally agreed with 'The things that happen in my life are excellent', 66%.

As it could be seen by the figures older children compose a smaller proportion of children being totally satisfied for each option. Small differences were noticed between boys and girls.

CW-SWBS items (%)

		Not at all agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Totally agree
I enjoy my life	10 yrs.	.3	.2	.2	.1	.2	.5	.4	.8	3.4	6.9	87.1
	12 yrs.	.9	.1		.3	.2	1.5	.9	1.5	3.6	10.4	80.6
	Total	.6	.1	.1	.2	.2	1.0	.7	1.1	3.5	8.6	83.9
My life is going well	10 yrs.	.4	.1		.1	.1	.3	.3	1.3	1.6	8.2	87.6
	12 yrs.	.9		.3	.1	.3	.9	.8	.7	5.0	11.1	80.1
	Total	.6	.0	.1	.1	.2	.6	.6	1.0	3.3	9.7	83.8
I have a good life	10 yrs.	.3				.2	.3	.5	.5	1.4	6.1	90.7
	12 yrs.	1.0		.2	.3		.5	1.0	1.4	1.5	8.4	85.8
	Total	.6	0.0	.1	.2	.1	.4	.7	.9	1.4	7.2	88.3
The things that happen in my life are excellent	10 yrs.	.8	.1	.1		.1	1.8	.9	2.3	5.2	21.0	67.8
	12 yrs.	.9	.3	.1	.3	.4	1.1	1.5	1.9	7.8	21.4	64.3
	Total	.8	.2	.1	.2	.3	1.5	1.2	2.1	6.5	21.2	66.0
I like my life	10 yrs.	.1				.2	.2	.2	.5	1.7	4.6	92.5
	12 yrs.	.6		.1	.4	.2	.6	.5	.9	2.7	8.2	85.8
	Total	.3		.0	.2	.2	.4	.3	.7	2.2	6.4	89.2
I am happy with my life	10 yrs.	.2	.3		.1	.1	.2	.5	.3	.9	5.6	91.9
	12 yrs.	.7	.3		.2	.3	.3	.5	1.0	1.6	8.7	86.4
	Total	.4	.3		.1	.2	.2	.5	.6	1.3	7.2	89.2

CW-DBSWBS (Children's Worlds Domain Based Subjective Well-Being Scale)

Another scale was used to evaluate children subjective wellbeing. This scale, the domain based Subjective well-being scale, is composed of 5 items and is based on the Brief Multidimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale by Seligson, Huebner & Valois, 2003. The scale measures the level of satisfaction with the people they live with, their friends, their life as a student, the area they live and the way they look.

93.5% of all children are totally satisfied with the people they live with, 82.4% were totally satisfied with their life as a student, 76.7% are totally satisfied with the way they look and 54.8% are totally satisfied with the area they lived. In all items older children compose a smaller group of the children answered totally satisfied. The highest percentage of 'not at all satisfied' is reported in their level o satisfaction with the area they live, 2.6% of all children, with small differences among age groups.

CW- DBSWBS items (%)

Satisfaction with:		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The people you live with	10 yrs.	0.2		0.0	0.3	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.9	2.5	94.1
	12 yrs.	0.3	0.1	0.3		1.0	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.9	3.7	92.9
	Total	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.9	3.1	93.5
Your friends	10 yrs.	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.3	1.5	3.3	11.7	81.2
	12 yrs.	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.4	1.0	3.5	6.4	20.7	66.1
	Total	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.2	0.7	2.5	4.9	16.2	73.7
Your life as a student	10 yrs.	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	2.0	7.1	88.7
	12 yrs.	0.1				0.4	1.8	1.1	0.8	6.0	13.8	76.0
	Total	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.7	4.0	10.5	82.4
The area where you live	10 yrs.	2.4	0.6	0.3	1.4	1.1	2.2	1.8	4.4	9.4	16.3	60.0
	12 yrs.	2.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.4	3.3	2.1	6.2	13.0	19.1	49.5
	Total	2.6	0.7	0.6	1.2	1.3	2.8	2.0	5.3	11.2	17.7	54.8
The way that you look	10 yrs.	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.2	1.3	4.7	11.0	79.7
	12 yrs.	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.6	5.4	15.0	73.7
	Total	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.5	5.1	13.0	76.7

CW-PNAS (Children's Worlds Positive and Negative Affects Scale)

Positive and negative subjective wellbeing was measured based on the scale of Barrett and Russell, (1998). There are three negative and three positive emotions measured for the last two weeks frequency in a scale of 0 = not at all to 10 = extremely. A considerable percentage of children have reported being extremely sad (5.6%), stressed (7.6%) and bored (5%). It is also noticeable that younger children report more often experiencing negative emotions in high frequency in all negative emotions scale, although further means analysis didn't reveal small and mostly not significant differences. Gender differences also were not significant.

CW-NAS items (%): Last two weeks: How often feeling...

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
sad	10 yrs.	65.6	8.3	4.2	3.0	1.4	2.7	1.3	1.5	2.8	2.8	6.5
	12 yrs.	56.7	11.9	6.5	4.6	2.9	3.0	1.7	2.4	2.4	3.3	4.7
	Total	61.2	10.1	5.4	3.8	2.2	2.9	1.5	2.0	2.6	3.1	5.6
stressed	10 yrs.	62.1	6.7	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.8	1.9	2.2	3.4	4.3	8.8
	12 yrs.	61.6	7.1	4.9	3.1	1.8	2.5	1.8	3.0	4.6	3.1	6.4
	Total	61.9	6.9	3.8	2.8	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.6	4.0	3.7	7.6
bored	10 yrs.	64.0	10.8	4.2	1.8	2.9	2.0	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.9	5.4
	12 yrs.	54.6	12.5	7.5	4.1	4.2	2.2	1.4	2.8	3.1	3.2	4.5
	Total	59.3	11.7	5.9	3.0	3.6	2.1	1.5	2.4	2.7	3.1	5.0

Three positive affective states were considered in the positive affective scale, Happy, calm and full of energy. Children reported to feel extremely happy (86.9%), full of energy (82.1%) and being calm in smaller percentage (69.4%). No differences related to age group or gender were noticed. Also means differences didn't show high significant differences between the groups.

CW-PAS items (%): Last two weeks: How often feeling...

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
happy	10 yrs.	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.8	4.8	91.9
	12 yrs.	0.5	0.3		0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.4	4.5	10.5	81.8
	Total	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.0	3.2	7.7	86.9
calm	10 yrs.	3.3	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.6	0.8	2.2	4.3	11.1	74.0
	12 yrs.	3.0	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.9	2.5	2.0	3.4	6.9	14.3	64.8
	Total	3.2	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.0	2.1	1.4	2.8	5.6	12.7	69.4
full of energy	10 yrs.	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.4	2.8	7.2	84.8
	12 yrs.	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.6	3.3	11.5	79.4
	Total	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.5	3.1	9.4	82.1

CW-PSWBS (Children's Worlds Psychological Subjective Well-Being Scale)

A 6 items scale measuring psychological subjective well-being was used only for the 12 year old children based on Ryff (1989). The scale is composed of 6 items that are measured in a 10 point scale of 0 = not at all to 10 = extremely. The majority of the children rate as being extremely satisfied with the way they were (88%), being good at managing daily responsibilities (77.%%), with other people being friendly to them (81.6%), about how much choice they had on how to spend their time (79.2%), how much they are learning (77.1%)

feeling positive with their future (82.7%). A small percentage of children rated each item below number 5 in the scale.

CW- PSWBS items (%)

<i>How much you agree with...</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I like being the way I am	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.8	2.0	7.1	86.5
I am good at managing my daily responsibilities	0.8	0	0.4	0.2	0	0.4	0.4	1.5	4.5	14.2	77.5
People are generally pretty friendly towards me	0.2	0	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.8	3.6	10.8	81.6
I have enough choice about how I spend my time	0.6	0	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.0	0.8	1.6	3.6	12.0	79.2
I feel that I am learning a lot at the moment	0.4	0.2	0.4	0	0.3	0.2	1.2	1.7	4.6	14.1	77.1
I feel positive about my future	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	1.0	1.0	3.4	9.5	82.7

2.10 Children perceptions about their country

Children were also asked about their rights and the UN convention on children's rights. 84.6% of all children know what rights children have but only 48.1% know about the UN convention of children's rights. Older children are more informed than younger ones. 12.1% of the children are not sure about the rights children have and 3.4% doesn't know what rights children have. Also 12.6% of all children are not sure about the rights children have and 28.6 are not sure they know the UN convention on children's rights.

Children's rights (%)

		<i>No</i>	<i>Not sure</i>	<i>Yes</i>
I know what rights children have	10 yrs.	4.6	15.7	79.7
	12 yrs.	2.1	8.4	89.4
	Total	3.4	12.1	84.6
I know about the UN children's rights convention	10 yrs.	27.2	29.8	43.0
	12 yrs.	19.5	27.4	53.1
	Total	23.4	28.6	48.1

3. Conclusions

Most of the participating Albanian children were satisfied and happy with their lives. Although in small percentages from 2-3% to, sometimes 10-12 % were not satisfied at all in different domains of their life.

We also noticed several times that older children were in general less satisfied than younger children.

The majority of children (99%) lived with their families, were happy with the family. 93.6% were extremely satisfied with the people they lived and 89.4% extremely satisfied with the flat where they lived. Children evaluated their families in higher rates for Safety, Good time together, support and care, while values for respect and participation were lower. In all indicators 10 years old had a lower mean value for all variables. Gender analysis revealed girls reporting higher mean values for care, respect and participation.

The majority of children were also totally satisfied with their friends (73.7%), but the proportion of older children being completely satisfied with their friends was smaller for older children, 66% of 12 years old and 81.2% of the 10 years old. This difference is the same between different age groups of boys and girls.

About school life 87.8% of the children stated to be totally satisfied with 'the things they have learned' (91.3% of the 10 years old and 84.3% of the 12 years old), 82.4% were totally satisfied with their life as a student (88.7% of the 10 years old and 76% of the 12 years old, but they were less satisfied with other children in the class. Older children and boys reported also to be less satisfied with their school life.

Bullying seem to be an issue for a considerable percentage of children. In total from 10 to 20% of all children stated to have been bullied at least once in one of the forms, "hit by other children", "called unkind names" or "left out by other children in their class". Small differences were noticed among age groups with younger children experiencing more bullying and gender comparisons revealed that girls were less exposed to bullying experiences than boys.

Lower level of satisfaction compared to other domains were noticed in children perceptions of their local area where only 54.7% of all children were extremely satisfied with the area where they lived. Also in average 5 to 12% of children didn't agree with being safe in their area, having enough places to play, of adults being kind to children, being respectful to children and being inclusive.

Descriptive analysis of subjective well-being scales showed that the majority of children overall were happy with their life. In a descending scale children were more satisfied with their family, the way they look, their life as a student, their friends and less with the area they lived.

Their emotional wellbeing was also evaluated. Children experienced negative emotions (sad, stressed, bored) more often than positive emotions (happy, calm, full of energy). Younger children reported to have experienced more often negative emotions than older children.

84.6% of children knew their rights but less than half knew about the convention.

Although the overall analysis is based in comparing the extreme values for each question what could be noticed is the consistent pattern of older children being generally less satisfied and some gender differences with girls being usually more satisfied than boys, although not in all items.

More detailed analysis is needed to further explore the differences among different groups of children and identify actual and potential influences in their well-being.

¹ Albanian Institute of statistics <http://www.instat.gov.al/en/themes/demography-and-social-indicators/population/#tab2>₂

³ http://www.instat.gov.al/media/3058/main_results_population_and_housing_census_2011.pdf Pg. 72

⁴ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/albania/overview>

⁵ <https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/20180417-albania-report.pdf>

⁶ <https://tradingeconomics.com/albania/gini-index-wb-data.html>