

Children's Worlds Wave 3

Measures of overall well-being

The Children's Wave 3 questionnaire contains three sets of questions designed to tap into three different aspects of self-reported well-being:

1. Cognitive subjective well-being (overall life satisfaction)
2. Affective subjective well-being (positive and negative affect)
3. Psychological well-being

The first two of these components reflect the tripartite model of subjective well-being initially proposed by Andrews and Withey (1976) and developed by Diener (1984).

The measure of cognitive subjective well-being has been developed over several waves of the survey from a scale originally devised by Huebner (1991) – the Student Life Satisfaction Scale. The items in the scale have been refined during each wave through statistical testing. Psychometric properties of the scale used in the first and second waves of the survey, including multi-group confirmatory factor analysis across countries, are discussed in Casas and Rees (2015) and Casas (2016) respectively. The items have been further modified in Wave 3 following discussions with children in low-income countries outside Europe with the aim of improving cross-cultural comparability.

The measure of affective subjective well-being has been prepared for Wave 3 on theoretical grounds based on a framework of core affect proposed by Feldman Barrett and Russell (1998). The six items relate to this framework as follows: general positive affect ('Happy'); activated positive affect ('Full of energy'); deactivated positive affect ('Calm'); general negative affect ('Sad'); activated negative affect ('Stressed'); and deactivated negative affect ('Bored'). This is a new measure but the three positive affect items were included in the Wave 2 questionnaire and appeared to function well (see Rees, 2017, forthcoming).

The measure of psychological well-being is based on the six components of psychological well-being proposed by Ryff (1989) as follows: item 1 (self-acceptance); item 2 (environmental mastery); item 3 (positive relations with others); item 4 (autonomy); item 5 (personal growth); item 6 (purpose in life). Some item wordings were devised by Deci & Ryan (<http://selfdeterminationtheory.org/questionnaires/>) and Keyes (2006). A very similar set of items (one different wording) was initially tested in the UK (Rees et al., 2013). The set of items included in the Wave 3 questionnaire is the same as those included in Wave 2. Testing of these items has been conducted and results are promising. Further information will be available in a working paper to be published shortly on the project website (Rees, 2017).

The exact wordings of the questions is provided at the end of this document. The first two measures will be included in the surveys of children aged 10 and 12 years old and the third measure in the survey of children aged 12 years old only.

For further information about any aspect of the project, please contact:

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References

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Full wording of question items

25. Now please say how much you agree with each of the following sentences about your life as a whole.

0 = Not at
all agree

10 = totally
agree

I enjoy my life	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
My life is going well	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I have a good life	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The things that happen in my life are excellent	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I like my life	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I am happy with my life	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

48. Below is a list of words that describe different feelings. Please read each word and then tick a box to say how much you have felt this way during the last two weeks

Here 0 means that you have not felt this way at all over the last two weeks. 10 means that you have felt this way 'extremely' over the last two weeks.

0 =
Not at all

10 =
Extremely

Happy	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sad	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Calm	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Stressed	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Full of energy	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Bored	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

49. In this section please say how much you agree with each of the following sentences about your life as a whole.

0 = Not at
all agree

10 = totally
agree

I like being the way I am	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I am good at managing my daily responsibilities	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
People are generally friendly towards me	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I have enough choice about how I spend my time	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I feel that I am learning a lot at the moment	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I feel positive about my future	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10