

Subject n°42 : **STATISTICS**

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In the UK, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) works on a “Measuring National Well-being programme”, which aims at producing accepted and trusted measures of the well-being of the nation.

The ONS has published 41 measures of National well-being, among which we can find a “Life satisfaction indicator”, which is the percentage of adults aged 16 and over rating their satisfaction with life as 7 or more out of 10.

Respondents were asked: “All things considered, how satisfied would you say you are with your life these days? Where 1 means very dissatisfied and 10 means very satisfied.”

The table below shows this indicator, for the 10 most populated of the 28 member states of the European Union, as well as for the whole Union.

| Country | Population | Life satisfaction (%) |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Belgium | 11,258,434 | 78.4 |
| France | 67,107,000 | 71.6 |
| Germany | 81,197,500 | 72.3 |
| Greece | 10,812,467 | 49.0 |
| Italy | 60,795,612 | 64.8 |
| Netherlands | 16,900,726 | 84.6 |
| Poland | 38,005,614 | 67.1 |
| Romania | 19,861,408 | 63.2 |
| Spain | 46,439,864 | 76.2 |
| United Kingdom | 65,100,000 | 71.8 |
| EU-28 | 508,000,846 | 69.3 |

1. For the 10 most populated European countries:
 - a. Compute the mean of this indicator,
 - b. Compute the median, the lower and upper quartiles,
 - c. Sketch a box plot.
2. How happy are the UK inhabitants?

Source: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171766_363811.pdf

Measuring National Well-being: European Comparisons, 2014