

Societal and individual well-being and quality of life in Switzerland

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The Quality of Society and Individual Quality of Life

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RESEARCH QUESTION

- how to measure the societal and individual dimensions of subjective well-being
- how have societal and individual characteristics of SWB and quality of life evolved in Switzerland over the past years
- what are the determinants of societal and individual SWB and how societal and individual characteristics of SWB are inter-related

- Societal and individual well-being and quality of life: insights from Swiss research
 - Societal and individual dimensions of subjective well-being and their determinants: results from own earlier comparative research on German speaking countries
 - Societal and individual dimensions of subjective well-being and their relationships: new evidence based on the Swiss Household Panel Survey 2000-2011
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- The malaise of Swiss happiness: L. Boltanski (1966)
 - Democracy makes people happy: B. Frey (2000)
 - Employment security, working conditions and job satisfaction
 - Political trust
 - Impact of nonmonetary deprivation on individual and societal well-being
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- Own comp. research based on the Euromodule Survey of 1999/2000 (in: Kriesi et al., Contemp. Switzerland, 2005)
- Two-dimensional structure of SWB in all countries (Switzerl., Austria, Germany, Slovenia; expl. factor analysis):
 - Individual SWB: satisfaction with standard of living, household income, health, education
 - Societal SWB: satisfaction with public safety, satisfaction with environmental situation
- Strong impact of deprivation (and other measures of inequality / objective living conditions) on individual SWB
- No impact of deprivation (and other structural/individual attributes) on societal SWB, but some impact of aspects of quality of society (conflicts in society, crime, anomie/anxiety)

FACTORIAL ANALYSIS FOR SWB (SHP, 2000-05)

<u>Items</u>	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Leisure	0.42	0.40	0.43	0.42	0.45	0.43
Health	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.35	0.30
Financial Situation	0.60	0.60	0.56	0.58	0.58	0.57
Working Conditions	0.66	0.64	0.68	0.70	0.65	0.68
N	7071	6593	5691	5220	8053	6533
CFI	0.980	0.976	0.975	0.941	0.975	0.959
RMSEA	0.050	0.053	0.055	0.088	0.056	0.067
WRMR	0.792	0.823	0.769	1.179	0.944	1.05

Notes: CFI: Comparative Fit Index; RMSEA: Root Mean Square Error of Approximation, WRMR: Weighted Root Mean Square Residual

FACTORIAL ANALYSIS FOR SWB (SHP,2006-11)

<u>Items</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Leisure	0.41	0.46	0.42	0.46	0.44	0.47
Health	0.34	0.33	0.35	0.37	0.42	0.42
Financial Situation	0.56	0.59	0.57	0.58	0.56	0.53
Working Conditions	0.68	0.68	0.71	0.71	0.66	0.69
N	6655	6972	6851	7039	7450	7459
CFI	0.978	0.957	0.956	0.977	0.974	0.985
RMSEA	0.049	0.073	0.071	0.054	0.053	0.041
WRMR	0.759	1.121	1.06	0.849	0.821	0.654


Notes: CFI: Comparative Fit Index; RMSEA: Root Mean Square Error of Approximation, WRMR: Weighted Root Mean Square Residual

FACTORIAL ANALYSIS FOR SWB (SHP, 2005)

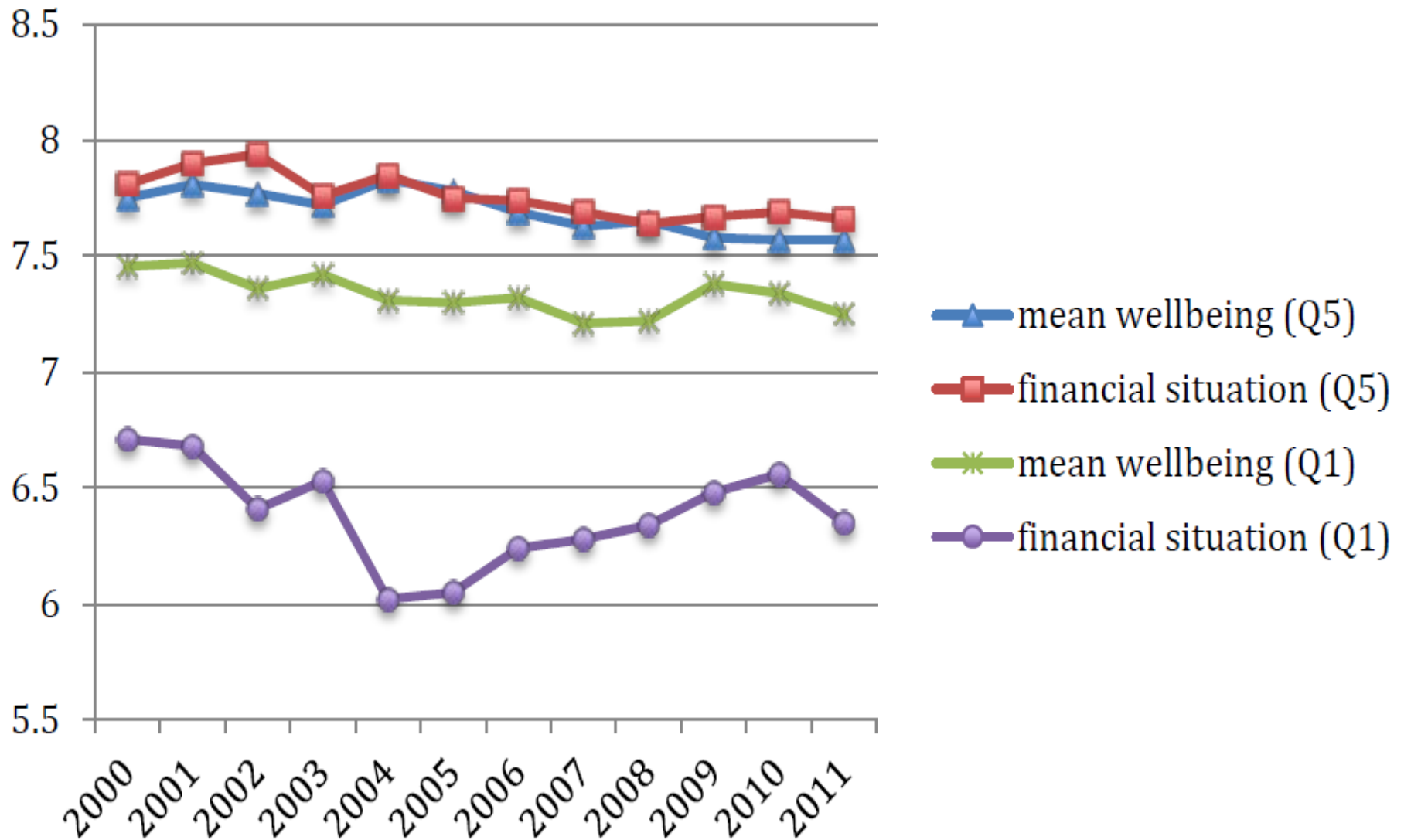
<u>Items</u>	2 dimensions		1 dimension
	Individual	Societal	
financial situation	0.460	--	0.435
leisure activities	0.474	--	0.427
health status	0.452	--	0.419
job in general	0.484	--	0.442
pers. security / public safety	--	0.528	0.473
democracy	--	0.452	0.402
trust in people	--	0.485	0.428
N	6533		
RMSEA	0.041		0.056
CFI	0.952		0.905
WRMR	1.214		1.678
Correlation between factors	0.683		-
Correlation general life satisf.	0.792	0.467	0.733

Notes: CFI: Comparative Fit Index; RMSEA: Root Mean Square Error of Approximation, WRMR: Weighted Root Mean Square Residual



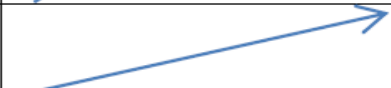
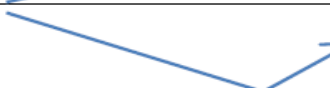






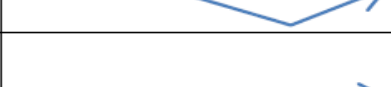
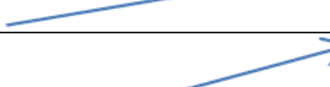


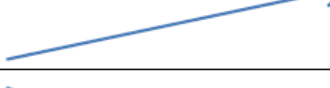

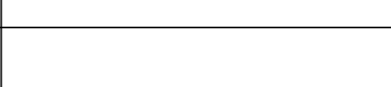

Core factors explaining individual SWB (2000-2011)

- State of health
 - Deprivation and financial precariousness
 - Labour market status, notably unemployment
 - Sociodemographic factors (age)
 - Trust in institutions
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INDIV. SWB FOR HIGHEST & LOWEST QUINTILES



LONGTERM CHANGE OF SOCIETAL & INDIV. WB

Societal well-being		Individual well-being	
Freedom		Education	
Social security		Employment	
Equity, fairness, Social inequalities		Income	
Political trust		Poverty	
Social cohesion		Housing	
Public safety		Health	
Sustainability		Leisure	
		Political participation	
		Subjective wellbeing	
Total		Total	

CONCLUSION

- The multidimensional nature of quality of life and SWB and notably the two dimensions of individual and societal SWB seem to be less pronounced than expected.
 - Individual and societal SWB seem to be closely connected.
 - The determinants of individual SWB are strongly related to relative income and deprivation, labor market integration and health, whereas societal factors (trust, conflicts in society) seem to be less important.
 - Societal SWB seem to be less associated with structural factors and objective living conditions, but more with subjective perceptions (notably of societal characteristics)
 - Societal and individual WB and QoL have differently evolved over the past years (areas, population groups etc)
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