

Trajectories of satisfaction with life following a collective, critical life event and their relationship with sociodemographic factors and internal migration: The example of the German reunification 1989/90

Applied Research in Quality of Life

Supplementary Material 4: Details on descriptive statistics and pairwise comparisons of the identified classes

SM4 Table 1. Descriptive sociodemographic statistics for the four classes of short-term trajectories of satisfaction with life ($N=5,548$).

	(A) Stable ($n = 4,810$)	(B) Improvement ($n = 139$)	(C) Decline- Improvement ($n = 290$)	(D) Decline ($n = 309$)	p -value ^a
Baseline (1990)					
Sex, N (%)	-	-	-	-	.605
Male	2,260 (47.0)	64 (46.0)	136 (46.9)	133 (43.0)	
Female	2,550 (53.0)	75 (54.0)	154 (53.1)	176 (57.0)	
Age	-	-	-	-	.786
M (SD)	41.20 (14.18)	40.19 (13.76)	41.43 (13.16)	40.86 (13.40)	
Education (ISCED), N (%)	-	-	-	-	.219
Low	830 (17.3)	21 (15.1)	37 (12.8)	56 (18.1)	
Medium	2,902 (60.3)	92 (66.2)	177 (61.0)	177 (57.3)	
High	1,078 (22.4)	26 (18.7)	76 (26.2)	76 (24.6)	
Employment status, N (%)	B, C	A, C, D	A, B, D	B, C	<.001
Not employed	1,393 (29.0)	58 (41.7)	61 (21.0)	90 (29.1)	
Employed	3,417 (71.0)	81 (58.3)	229 (79.0)	219 (70.9)	
Marital status, N (%)	B	A, C, D	B	B	.011
Not married/separated	1,387 (28.8)	58 (41.7)	82 (28.3)	93 (30.1)	
Married	3,423 (71.2)	81 (58.3)	208 (71.7)	216 (69.9)	
Household income (€)	B, C, D	A	A, D	A, C	<.001
M (SD)	1,658.91 (910.49)	1,232.77 (678.18)	1,134.07 (567.62)	1,407.60 (915.21)	
Changes					
Become not employed, N (%)	C, D	C, D	A, B	A, B	<.001
No	3,686 (76.6)	103 (74.1)	151 (52.1)	175 (56.6)	
Yes	1,124 (23.4)	36 (25.9)	139 (47.9)	134 (43.4)	
Become divorced/separated, N (%)	C, D	-	A	A	<.001
No	4,614 (95.9)	128 (92.1)	261 (90.0)	278 (90.0)	
Yes	196 (4.1)	11 (7.9)	29 (10.0)	31 (10.0)	
Household income change (€)	D	D	D	A, B, C	<.001
M (SD)	+449.31 (868.12)	+671.99 (978.76)	+565.49 (743.61)	+232.04 (784.00)	
Migration ^b					
	B, C, D	A, C	A, B, D	A, C	<.001
West	3,169 (65.9)	67 (48.2)	67 (23.1)	145 (46.9)	
East	1,570 (32.6)	69 (49.6)	216 (74.5)	162 (52.4)	
East-West	68 (1.4)	3 (2.2)	7 (2.4)	2 (0.6)	

Note. ^a Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test used for all continuous variables due to non-normal distribution; ^b West-East migration is not included for the short-term perspective due to the very small group size ($n=3$); χ^2 -tests and permutation-based χ^2 -tests (< 5 observations per cell; $n = 5,000$ permutations) used for categorical data. Letters (A–D) indicate group differences significant at $p < 0.05$ (Benjamini-Hochberg correction for multiple testing).

SM4 Table 2. Descriptive sociodemographic statistics for the four classes of long-term trajectories of satisfaction with life ($N=5,548$).

	(A) Stable ($n = 3,457$)	(B) Improvement ($n = 911$)	(C) Decline- Improvement ($n = 521$)	(D) Decline ($n = 659$)	p -value ^a
Baseline (1990)					
Sex, N (%)	-	-	-	-	.783
Male	1,634 (47.3)	419 (46.0)	240 (46.1)	300 (45.5)	
Female	1,823 (52.7)	492 (54.0)	281 (53.9)	359 (54.5)	
Age	B, D	A, D	D	A, B, C	<.001
M (SD)	40.75 (13.86)	39.45 (12.91)	41.00 (13.51)	45.89 (16.09)	
Education (ISCED), N (%)	B, D	A, C, D	B, D	A, B, C	<.001
Low	587 (17.0)	122 (13.4)	87 (16.7)	148 (22.5)	
Medium	2,079 (60.1)	543 (59.6)	327 (62.8)	399 (60.5)	
High	791 (22.9)	246 (27.0)	107 (20.5)	112 (17.0)	
Employment status, N (%)	B, D	A, D	D	A, B, C	<.001
Not employed	950 (27.5)	237 (26.0)	156 (29.9)	259 (39.3)	
Employed	2,507 (72.5)	674 (74.0)	365 (70.1)	400 (60.7)	
Marital status, N (%)	-	-	-	-	.222
Not married/separated	999 (28.9)	278 (30.5)	137 (26.3)	206 (31.3)	
Married	2,458 (71.1)	633 (69.5)	384 (73.7)	453 (68.7)	
Household income (€)	B, C, D	A, C, D	A, B	A, B	<.001
M (SD)	1,693.80 (939.03)	1,382.18 (827.71)	1,514.43 (785.43)	1,534.01 (816.80)	
Changes					
Become not employed, N (%)	B, C	A, D	A, D	B, C	<.001
No	1,264 (36.6)	246 (27.0)	151 (29.0)	250 (37.9)	
Yes	2,193 (63.4)	665 (73.0)	370 (71.0)	409 (62.1)	
Become divorced/separated, N (%)	B, C, D	A	A	A	<.001
No	2,706 (78.3)	664 (72.9)	360 (69.1)	477 (72.4)	
Yes	751 (21.7)	247 (27.1)	161 (30.9)	182 (27.6)	
Household income change (€)	B, C, D	A, C, D	A, B, D	A, B, C	<.001
M (SD)	+1,124.61 (1,667.71)	+1,296.72 (1,788.25)	+637.70 (1,204.33)	+523.23 (1,241.41)	
Migration					
	B	A, C, D	B	B	<.001
West	2,282 (66.0)	367 (40.3)	325 (62.4)	445 (67.5)	
East	1,089 (31.5)	498 (54.7)	178 (34.2)	202 (30.7)	
East-West	66 (1.9)	44 (4.8)	12 (2.3)	8 (1.2)	
West-East	20 (0.6)	2 (0.2)	6 (1.2)	4 (0.6)	

Note. ^a Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test used for all continuous variables due to non-normal distribution; χ^2 -tests and permutation-based χ^2 -tests (< 5 observations per cell; $n = 5,000$ permutations) used for categorical data. Letters (A–D) indicate group differences significant at $p < 0.05$ (Benjamini-Hochberg correction for multiple testing).