Revue académique: Modern Social Realities Journal

ISSN: xxxx
Volume 01, Issue 03 October 2026
DOI: xxxx
Received: 26/03/2026 | Revised: 29/09/2026 | Acceptance: 02/10/2026 | Published: 22/10/2026

Social Trust, Institutional Confidence, and Subjective Wellbeing Across Societies

Devarakonda Ramesh Babu[1], G. Divya Malika[2]

[1]Research Scholar, Department of Sociology, Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh, Visakhapatnam / 530032, rameshbabudevara@gmail.com, High topical fit in sociology; comparative society research unverified
[2]Research Scholar, Department of Sociology, Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh, 530003, 270896divya@gmail.com, High topical fit in sociology; comparative methods unverified

ABSTRACT

Social trust and institutional trust are important elements of modern societies which influence interpersonal relationships, perceptions of institutions and subjective well-being. This study investigated the relationships between social trust, institutional confidence and life satisfaction across different national contexts. We performed a quantitative cross-national analysis, using data from the World Values Survey (WVS) at the observational level of 192 country waves from 94 countries. Descriptive statistics were used, as well as four different multivariable regression models with fixed effects for country and survey wave. Results showed a positive association of life satisfaction with social trust in pooled (β = 1.2349, p = 0.0211) and survey-wave adjusted models (β = 1.3359, p = 0.0117). These associations however, were not statistically significant when adjusted for country specific factors. No independent associations with wellbeing was found for confidence in parliament or in government, and income was consistently positively associated with wellbeing across all regression specification. These findings underline the importance of the socioeconomic context and national contexts to explain disparities in subjective wellbeing. The study makes a contribution to the field of comparative social research because it highlights the context-specific nature of trust–wellbeing relationships and the importance of carefully interpreting cross-national relationships.

Keywords: *Social Trust, Institutional Confidence, Subjective Wellbeing, Life Satisfaction, Cross-National Analysis*

1. Introduction

Social trust and institutional confidence are two fundamental components of social organization in the modern world. Effects on social relations, intergroup cooperation and perception of social stability. Social trust is a person's reliance on the reliability, honesty and cooperativeness of others, while institutional confidence is the trust that a person has in the credibility, effectiveness and legitimacy of public institutions. The two have drawn interest in research in the social sciences and psychology in relation to their potential links to subjective wellbeing and social cohesion and the quality of governance. In societies with uncertainty in the economic sphere, institutional changes and changing social relations, they are very important. Research on the relationship between interpersonal trust and institutional trust and subjective wellbeing has shown that it is important to differentiate between the underlying relationships and possible causal pathways between these variables (Glatz & Schwerdtfeger, 2022). However, the relations are complicated due to the huge difference in social condition, cultural expectations and institutional experiences across societies.

“Trust in institutions by citizens is an important factor in the relationship between citizens and the institutions of government.” Increased confidence in government may be a result of perceptions of political accountability, administrative competence, procedural fairness and responsiveness to societal needs. These perceptions may shape their views of their contribution to society and the larger picture of what shapes their lives. The concept of institutional confidence therefore has also relevance to political legitimacy and institutional governance, as well as to quality of life research (Wang, 2024). However, confidence in institutions should not be confused with interpersonal trust since the two constructs refer to different sources of reliability and social expectations. The European Social Survey has helped to shed light on the relationship between political and institutional trust and subjective wellbeing in various national settings (Diržytė et al., 2024). These findings indicate that more comparative studies are needed that could include both interpersonal and institutional factors in research on societal wellbeing.

Social trust is built through interaction in the relationships of families, communities, education and other social institutions. Aspects of early social experiences can influence the way that expectations are developed about others, and can therefore affect the enduring differences in interpersonal trust. Developmental and social experiences are important factors to consider for understanding trust perceptions across populations as they are relevant to cross-national studies of childhood predictors of social trust (Kim et al., 2025). Furthermore, social trust can be linked to wellbeing subjectively through social support and perceived security and opportunity to cooperate. The comparative evidence suggests that the strength of the association between social trust and wellbeing depends on cultural orientation, being stronger in more individualistic societies (Guo et al., 2022). This is because there are some differences that indicate that the wellbeing effects of trust cannot be taken for granted in various cultural and institutional contexts.

Differences in trust and wellbeing are also influenced by socioeconomic circumstances. People in different socioeconomic positions may have unequal access to resources, opportunities, institutional representation, and social support. Such differences can influence people's trust in public institutions and in institutions themselves, as well as notions of fairness. Studies of social class and income inequality have shown the importance of socioeconomic position for the understanding of social and institutional trust (Kim et al., 2022). In China, too, there is evidence that social trust and social capital may influence subjective wellbeing within specific socioeconomic contexts (Xu et al., 2023). The findings suggest that socioeconomic factors need to be taken into account in studies of trust-wellbeing relationships, especially in cross-national studies where income and education are expected to vary substantially as do institutional conditions.

Association between institutional confidence and wellbeing may be affected by the wider social environment and psychological experiences. Institutional trust can be derived from different social pathways, such as experiences with mental health and interpersonal relationships (Paquin et al., 2025). These relationships could be further adjusted in times when there is collective uncertainty. The importance of institutional trust in subjective wellbeing and mental health has been explored in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic when there is a significant amount of social disruption (Lee, 2022). The importance of social relationships in the context of the crises has also been brought to the fore by international evidence on happiness, trust and social connection (Helliwell et al., 2023). Overall, these opinions indicate that trust and confidence are not limited psychological traits but rather are situated in wider social frameworks.

Although there are a lot of scholarships out there, there is still a lot of analytical work to be done to assess

whether social trust and institutional confidence have separate relationships with subjective wellbeing. This is particularly crucial as people can have a lot of faith in people but not necessarily in government institutions. Studies in societies with low trust levels show the complex connection between social and political trust and the necessity of taking into account their specific institutional and social contexts (Bargsted et al., 2023). Conceptualizations of social cohesion that are more broad reach in scope view trust as one of multiple dimensions of social relationships of belonging, participation and collective integration (Aruqaj, 2023). Therefore, analysing social trust and institutional confidence as a whole might be more useful for determining the wellbeing differences between societies than analysing either trust or confidence alone. The present study will answer these questions by making a comparative quantitative analysis of the aggregated observations from World Values Survey. Generalised social trust, trust in parliament, trust in the government and satisfaction with life is considered. The results are adjusted for socioeconomic characteristics and by country and wave. The analysis is based on pooled regression estimates and compared with models that include country and survey-wave fixed effects in order to explore if the associations found are stable after controlling for common period differences and stable national attributes. This is more than mere correlations, although it is recognised that correlations in observational data may not imply causality. The study makes a contribution to current social research by using a comparative method to analyze the explanatory value of interpersonal trust and institutional confidence in an integrated cross-national context. The objectives of this research are as follows:

1.To examine the relationship between generalized social trust and subjective wellbeing across diverse national and institutional contexts.

2.To assess the independent associations of parliamentary and governmental confidence with subjective wellbeing after accounting for socioeconomic characteristics.

3.To evaluate the robustness of trust–wellbeing relationships across pooled, country-fixed-effects, and survey-wave-adjusted regression models.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Research Design and Data Source

The current study employed a quantitative cross-national observational design to explore the associations of social trust, institutional confidence, and subjective well-being across societies (Lasso, 2018). The World Values Survey dataset produced 234 country–wave observations from 98 countries in six survey waves. Each record contained aggregated country level responses for a particular survey period. The study investigated differences in interpersonal trust, appraisals of public institutions, and life satisfaction across nations. The analytical framework included descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and multivariable regression to determine associations and the consistency of these associations across model specifications.

2.2 Study Variables and Measurement

Subjective wellbeing was measured as life satisfaction (A170) on a ten point scale. Generalized social trust (A165) was measured to assess interpersonal trust . Confidence in parliament (E069_07) and government (E069_11) were measured to assess confidence in institutions . The social trust variable was recoded by subtracting 2 from the original mean at the country level . The institutional confidence variable was calculated by subtracting the original mean from 4 . Socioeconomic predictors were income scale (X047) and education level (X025R). These transformations guarantyd that consistently higher trust and confidence scores corresponded to more favorable social and institutional assessments.

2.3 Data Preparation and Quality Assessment

Data preparation included checking for completeness, coding consistency, numerical distributions and country–wave identifiers. We removed observations with missing values on any of the six main analytical variables from the regression sample, which left 192 country–wave records covering 94 countries. Before estimating the statistical parameters, we checked the variable distributions for unusual values and inconsistencies. The same complete-case sample was used for all regression specifications for comparability. To estimate fixed effects, country dummies and dummies for the wave of the survey were retained, allowing the analysis to control for permanent differences between countries and changes across waves of the survey.

2.4 Descriptive Statistics and Correlation Analysis

Descriptive analysis summarized the distributions of social trust, institutional confidence, life satisfaction,

income and education by means, standard deviations, minimum values and maximum values. Pearson correlation coefficients were used to explore the linear relationships between the selected indicators. The size of correlations was examined to check for overlap between explanatory variables, especially parliamentary and governmental confidence. Differences in social attitudes and well-being across observation periods were also characterized by comparing survey-wave means. These analyzes provide initial evidence for cross-national relationships and aid in the interpretation of later multivariable regression models.

2.5 Regression Modeling and Statistical Validation

Four ordinary least square regression models were used to assess statistical associations between social trust, institutional confidence and life satisfaction. All models contained the same five predictors. Model 1 used pooled observations, Model 2 included survey-wave fixed effects, Model 3 included country fixed effects and Model 4 included both. Standard errors were clustered at the country level to allow for repeated observations. Model performance was evaluated using regression coefficients, 95% confidence intervals, p-values, R2, adjusted R2, and Akaike information criteria. Statistical analysis was performed using Python and statsmodels.

3. Results

3.1 Dataset Coverage and Analytical Sample Characteristics

The data set consisted of 234 country-wave observations for 98 countries. We had life satisfaction measures for 232 observations and generalized social trust for 233. Parliamentary and government confidence were observed for 223 and 208 observations, respectively. Income was available for 227 records, education for 213. The selection of complete cases on all six analytical variables left a sample of 192 observations from 94 countries. The final sample comprised five waves of survey data, providing a consistent basis for descriptive comparisons, correlation analysis, and multivariable regression estimation (Table 1) (Figure 1).

Table 1. Dataset Coverage and Availability of Study Variables

Dataset characteristic	Available N	Percentage (%)
Total observations	234	100.00
Life satisfaction	232	99.15
Generalized social trust	233	99.57
Parliamentary confidence	223	95.30
Governmental confidence	208	88.89
Income scale	227	97.01
Education level	213	91.03
Complete analytical observations	192	82.05
Excluded observations	42	17.95

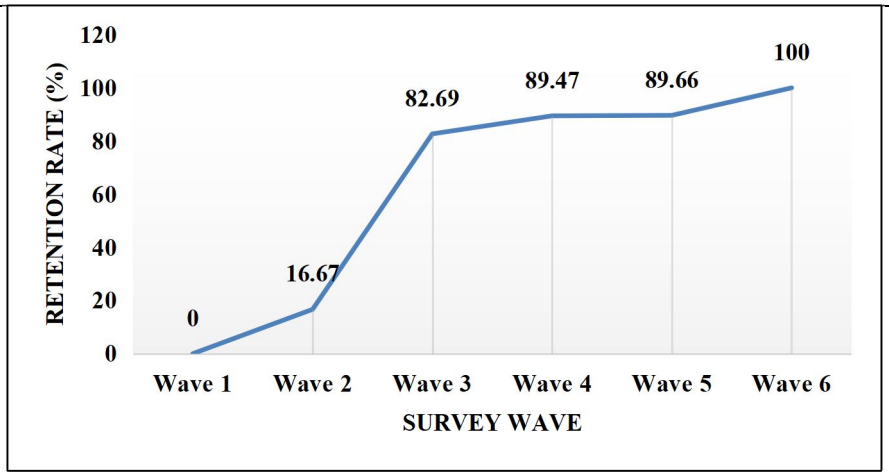


Figure 1. Survey-Wave Data Retention Rates

3.2 Descriptive Patterns of Social Trust and Subjective Wellbeing

Descriptive statistics for the full analytical sample are provided in Table 2. The mean life satisfaction was 6.591 (SD = 1.028) with a range from 3.725 to 8.512. Social trust (M = 0.258, SD = 0.153) showed variation in interpersonal confidence across societies. The mean score of governmental confidence was 1.415 and the mean score of parliamentary confidence was 1.281. The average scale of income was 4.665 and the average education was 1.939 . The results show differences in social attitudes and socioeconomic characteristics, and provide an empirical basis for investigating their relation to subjective well-being across countries (Table 2) (Figure 2).

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Social Trust, Institutional Confidence, and Subjective Wellbeing

Variable	N	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum
Life satisfaction	192	6.591	1.028	3.725	8.512
Social trust	192	0.258	0.153	0.028	0.742
Parliamentary confidence	192	1.281	0.428	0.422	2.772
Governmental confidence	192	1.415	0.399	0.593	2.782
Income scale	192	4.665	0.863	1.778	6.514
Education level	192	1.939	0.261	1.393	2.598

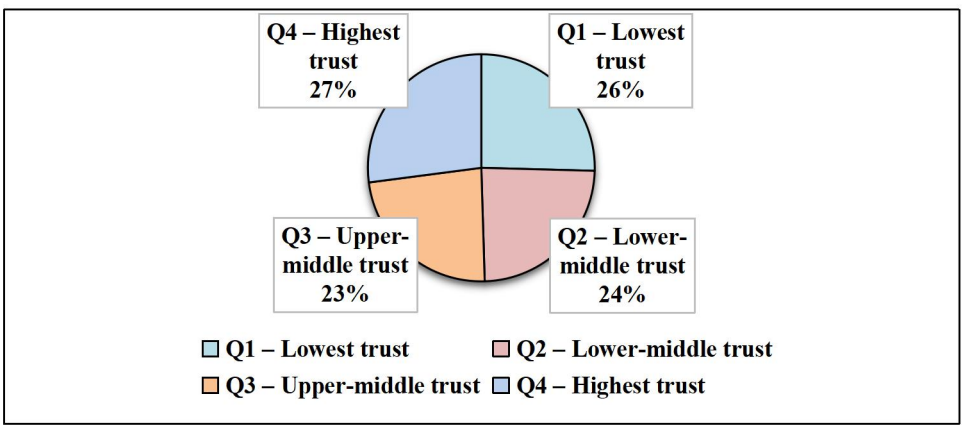


Figure 2. Subjective Wellbeing Across Social Trust Quartiles

3.3 Correlations Among Trust, Institutional Confidence, and Wellbeing

The Pearson correlation analysis indicated that social trust was positively correlated with life satisfaction (r = 0.205). Income showed a stronger positive correlation with wellbeing (r = 0.300), whereas education had a weaker association (r = 0.105). Unadjusted associations of life satisfaction with parliamentary confidence (r = −0.024) and governmental confidence (r = 0.012) were negligible. Institutional confidence indicators were strongly correlated (r = 0.873), suggesting a large overlap in public evaluations of governmental institutions. These patterns provided context to the interpretation of the adjusted regression coefficients (Figure 3).

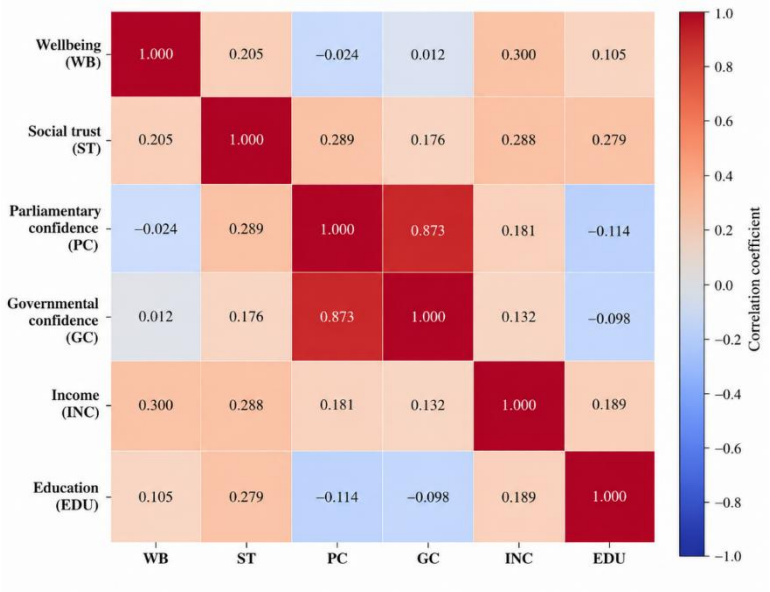


Figure 3. Pearson Correlation Matrix of Social Trust, Institutional Confidence, and Subjective Wellbeing

3.4 Predictive Associations Between Trust and Subjective Wellbeing

Table 3 shows that the relationships between predictors differ across regression specifications. Social trust showed a positive relationship with wellbeing in Models 1 (β = 1.2349, p = 0.0211) and 2 (β = 1.3359, p = 0.0117), but was not significant after controlling for country fixed effects. Income was statistically significant and positively associated across all four models. There were no significant independent associations with wellbeing for parliamentary and governmental confidence. The model explanatory power increased from R^2 = 0.1303 to 0.9263, mainly due to the inclusion of country and survey-wave effects (Table 3) (Figure 4).

Table 3. Multivariable Regression Analysis of Social Trust and Institutional Confidence as Predictors of Subjective Wellbeing

Predictor / statistic	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Social trust				
Coefficient (β)	1.2349	1.3359	−0.6706	−0.2098
Standard error	0.5354	0.5299	0.8413	0.8180
95% CI lower	0.1855	0.2974	−2.3196	−1.8130
95% CI upper	2.2843	2.3744	0.9784	1.3934
p-value	0.0211	0.0117	0.4254	0.7976
Parliamentary confidence				
Coefficient (β)	−0.7851	−0.7551	−0.7193	−0.7379

Standard error	0.4107	0.4281	0.7361	0.6793
95% CI lower	−1.5901	−1.5942	−2.1620	−2.0693
95% CI upper	0.0198	0.0841	0.7233	0.5935
p-value	0.0559	0.0778	0.3284	0.2774
Governmental confidence				
Coefficient (β)	0.5841	0.5637	0.5258	0.6162
Standard error	0.3894	0.4109	0.6704	0.6101
95% CI lower	−0.1791	−0.2417	−0.7881	−0.5797
95% CI upper	1.3473	1.3691	1.8396	1.8120
p-value	0.1336	0.1701	0.4329	0.3126
Income scale				
Coefficient (β)	0.3326	0.2905	0.2557	0.2197
Standard error	0.1107	0.1077	0.0768	0.0674
95% CI lower	0.1156	0.0793	0.1052	0.0875
95% CI upper	0.5497	0.5016	0.4063	0.3519
p-value	0.0027	0.0070	0.0009	0.0011
Education level				
Coefficient (β)	−0.0571	−0.1464	1.2661	0.7163
Standard error	0.3600	0.4035	0.4884	0.4817
95% CI lower	−0.7626	−0.9373	0.3090	−0.2279
95% CI upper	0.6484	0.6445	2.2233	1.6604
p-value	0.8739	0.7167	0.0095	0.1370
Model performance				
R^2	0.1303	0.1862	0.9069	0.9263
Adjusted R^2	0.1070	0.1460	0.8087	0.8418
AIC	539.8365	535.0870	296.9162	260.0293
Observations (N)	192	192	192	192
Countries (N)	94	94	94	94



Figure 4. Regression Model Error Comparison

3.5 Cross-National Differences and Survey-Wave Variations

Comparisons across waves of the survey showed differences in aggregate wellbeing and institutional evaluations. The mean life satisfaction was least in Wave 4 (6.207) and highest in Wave 6 (6.840) and Wave 5 (6.829). The highest average of social trust is observed in Wave 5 (0.276) and the highest average of confidence in parliament is in Wave 2 (1.689). Governmental confidence was highest during the Wave 4 (1.542). Also, means of income and education varied across time. These patterns imply differences in social conditions and institutional perceptions, but the shifting country representation limits a direct longitudinal interpretation of the observed differences (Table 4).

Table 4. Survey-Wave Differences in Social Trust, Institutional Confidence, and Subjective Wellbeing

Wave	N	Social trust	Parliamentary confidence	Governmental confidence	Life satisfaction	Income	Education
Wave 2	3	0.229	1.689	1.306	6.564	4.431	1.854
Wave 3	43	0.260	1.210	1.321	6.263	4.518	1.898
Wave 4	34	0.257	1.418	1.542	6.207	4.486	1.907
Wave 5	52	0.276	1.255	1.403	6.829	4.640	1.922
Wave 6	60	0.244	1.257	1.427	6.840	4.904	2.008

4. Discussion

Aggregated observations from the World Values Survey on social trust and institutional confidence and their associations with subjective wellbeing across societies. The results indicated that social trust was positively associated with life satisfaction in pooled regression models and specifications that controlled for survey-wave differences. However, this association was no longer statistically significant after controlling for country fixed effects, suggesting that persistent national characteristics may explain a large part of the association observed. Across all four regression models, income was consistently positively related to life satisfaction, whereas confidence in parliament and government was not independently and statistically associated. The results indicate that the links between interpersonal trust, institutional confidence and

wellbeing are sensitive to variations in national context and model specification.

The positive relationship between social trust and subjective wellbeing in the pooled models provides support for the view that interpersonal trust is an important component of social wellbeing. People living in societies with more interpersonal trust are likely to enjoy better social relations, more expectations of cooperation, and more perceived security. Previous studies have recognized social equity and social trust as the mechanisms linking subjective socioeconomic status to life satisfaction, highlighting the role of social conditions perception in wellbeing assessments (Ren et al., 2022). These broader relationships are consistent with the present findings, but also indicate that their statistical significance depends on how country-level heterogeneity is handled. Thus, social trust should not be viewed as a consistently independent predictor of wellbeing across all national contexts.

One important finding is that the statistically significant association with social trust disappears when country fixed effects are included. This change suggests that cross-national variation in social trust and wellbeing may be affected by relatively stable societal characteristics, such as institutional arrangements, cultural expectations, and socioeconomic environments . The current analysis cannot identify the exact mechanisms at work, but the results demonstrate the significance of distinguishing between-country associations from within-country associations across survey waves. In addition, the role of social and economic conditions in explaining wellbeing differences, including those relating to gender, has been emphasized in studies on socioeconomic status, social capital and happiness (Adedeji et al., 2023). Therefore, the present findings support a context-sensitive interpretation of interpersonal trust, as opposed to assuming a universally consistent association.

The pattern of confidence in institutions was different from that of interpersonal trust. Parliamentary and governmental confidence were strongly correlated but neither had a statistically significant independent association with life satisfaction in the multivariable models. They are highly correlated . This may have decreased the precision of the coefficient estimates , making it difficult to discern the separate contributions . This finding is especially important, since institutional trust is a separate construct that can impact certain social attitudes and behaviors without necessarily having a direct link to general wellbeing. Studies on vaccination decisions have demonstrated that institutional trust is distinct from related trust constructs and is relevant to vaccine hesitancy and refusal (Krastev et al., 2023). Hence the weak wellbeing associations should not be taken to mean that institutional confidence is not socially relevant in a broader sense.

The findings also suggest that institutional confidence may operate differently across social domains. Confidence in public institutions can be particularly important when people are put in situations in which they need institutional support, reliable public information or access to basic services. The existing literature on healthcare trust indicates that medical mistrust and confidence in healthcare institutions are relevant to health-related experiences, particularly in times of crisis (Souvatzi et al., 2024). Similarly, research on vaccine hesitancy in sub-Saharan Africa demonstrates the importance of taking into account trust in particular institutional and regional settings (Unfried & Priebe, 2024). These studies are concerned with health outcomes, rather than general life satisfaction, implying that institutional confidence may be more closely linked to domain-specific outcomes than broad measures of subjective wellbeing.

Income was the most consistently positive correlate of wellbeing across the regression specifications. After adding fixed effects for country and survey wave, its association remained statistically significant, indicating that differences in the aggregated income measure remained explanatorily relevant within the examined sample. This finding is in line with broader research that has identified socioeconomic conditions, health and social relationships as interrelated determinants of happiness across cultures and countries (Singh et al., 2023). However, the income variable is a self-reported aggregate income scale rather than an objective measure of national economic development. Hence its coefficient needs to be explained in terms of the measurement properties of the World Values Survey, not as a demonstration of the direct effect of economic growth.

The findings have several implications for research on contemporary social realities. First, one should treat interpersonal trust and institutional confidence as conceptually distinct dimensions, rather than as interchangeable proxies for societal trust. Second, in cross-national comparisons, national characteristics have to be carefully controlled, because pooled associations may be an artifact of persistent between-society differences. Third, the positive relationship with income indicates that socioeconomic positioning still matters in evaluating societal wellbeing. Also the findings suggest that policy debates should not take

for granted that an increase in institutional confidence will automatically result in an improvement in life satisfaction. More broadly, scholarship on institutional resilience points out the necessity of adaptive and responsive institutional arrangements, although the current analysis does not directly test these mechanisms (Rachmad, 2026).

There are a number of limitations to consider. The analysis was based on aggregated country-wave observations, meaning that the conclusions are limited to associations at the societal level and cannot be interpreted directly for individuals. Also, unequal country coverage, missing observations, and differences in survey-wave composition may affect estimated relationships. Moreover, the strong correlation between confidence in parliament and confidence in the government leaves a risk of multicollinearity and the observational nature of the study precludes any causal interpretation. The high explanatory power of the fixed-effects models is partly due to the inclusion of a large number of country indicators rather than to the independent predictive strength of the substantive variables. Studies on social connectedness and mental health among older adults have highlighted the significance of individual psychological and relational characteristics, which cannot be sufficiently explored through aggregated national observations (Hassan, 2023). Future research should therefore include longitudinal data at the individual level, multilevel modeling and more measures of institutional quality and social cohesion.

The study shows that the statistical relationships of social trust and institutional confidence with subjective wellbeing are different in general. The pooled models indicated a positive association with social trust, but this was no longer significant when country fixed effects were included. Institutional confidence was not significantly associated independently. Income was a relatively stable correlate of wellbeing. These results contribute to our comprehension of the intersections of interpersonal relations, institutional perceptions and socioeconomic circumstances across societies, and emphasize the significance of national context in interpreting the social foundations of wellbeing.

5. Conclusion

Social trust, confidence in institutions and subjective well-being across societies: Relationships using data from the World Values Survey. In regression models, adjusted for survey wave and pooled, social trust was positively associated with life satisfaction. However, this association was no longer statistically significant when controlling for country-specific characteristics, suggesting that broader national contexts matter for the relationship between interpersonal trust and wellbeing. Parliamentary and governmental confidence were strongly correlated but neither was statistically significantly associated with life satisfaction independent of the other. In contrast, income maintained a consistent positive relation across all regression specifications indicating the significance of socioeconomic conditions in understanding societal wellbeing. The findings suggest that interpersonal trust, institutional confidence and socioeconomic characteristics make a different contribution to the variation observed in life satisfaction. The study contributes to comparative social research by emphasizing the significance of distinguishing between cross-national differences and within-country relationships in the evaluation of the social determinants of wellbeing. However, the aggregated nature of the observations, uneven survey coverage and potential unmeasured confounding limit causal interpretation. Future research should utilize individual-level longitudinal evidence, a wider range of institutional indicators, and multilevel analytical techniques to better understand these relationships. The findings show the importance of socioeconomic circumstances and national context for comprehending the complicated social underpinnings of subjective wellbeing.

References:

1. Adedeji, A., Olonisakin, T. T., Buchcik, J., & Idemudia, E. S. (2023). Socioeconomic status and social capital as predictors of happiness: evidence and gender differences. Humanities and social sciences Communications, 10(1), 119.
2. Aruqaj, B. (2023). An integrated approach to the conceptualisation and measurement of social cohesion. Social Indicators Research, 168(1), 227-263.
3. Bargsted, M., Ortiz, C., Cáceres, I., & Somma, N. M. (2023). Social and political trust in a low trust society. Political Behavior, 45(4), 1401-1420.
4. Diržytė, A., Patapas, A., & Adame, K. (2024). Unlocking the links between political and institutional trust and subjective well-being: Insights from the 11th European Social Survey. Public Policy and

Administration, 23(4), 457-474.
5. Glatz, C., & Schwerdtfeger, A. (2022). Disentangling the causal structure between social trust, institutional trust, and subjective well-being. Social Indicators Research, 163(3), 1323-1348.
6. Guo, Q., Zheng, W., Shen, J., Huang, T., & Ma, K. (2022). Social trust more strongly associated with well-being in individualistic societies. Personality and Individual Differences, 188, 111451.
7. HASSAN, O. O. (2023). Social connectedness and psychological adaptiveness as predictors of emotional wellbeing of the elderly in ibadan, Nigeria (Doctoral dissertation).
8. Helliwell, J. F., Huang, H., Norton, M., Goff, L., & Wang, S. (2023). World happiness, trust and social connections in times of crisis. World happiness report, 2023.
9. Kim, Y. I., VanderWeele, T. J., & Johnson, B. R. (2025). Childhood predictors of perceptions of social trust across 22 countries in the global flourishing study. Scientific Reports, 15(1), 14358.
10. Kim, Y., Sommet, N., Na, J., & Spini, D. (2022). Social class—not income inequality—predicts social and institutional trust. Social Psychological and Personality Science, 13(1), 186-198.
11. Krastev, S., Krajden, O., Vang, Z. M., Juárez, F. P. G., Solomonova, E., Goldenberg, M. J., ... & Gold, I. (2023). Institutional trust is a distinct construct related to vaccine hesitancy and refusal. BMC Public Health, 23(1), 2481.
12. Lasso, F. (2018). World Values Survey [Data set]. Kaggle. https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/fernandol/world-values-survey
13. Lee, S. (2022). Subjective well-being and mental health during the pandemic outbreak: Exploring the role of institutional trust. Research on Aging, 44(1), 10-21.
14. Paquin, V., Miconi, D., Aversa, S., Johnson-Lafleur, J., Côté, S., Geoffroy, M. C., & Gülöksüz, S. (2025). Social and mental health pathways to institutional trust: A cohort study. Social Science & Medicine, 379, 118199.
15. Rachmad, Y. E. (2026). The Future Code of Leadership: Regenerative Frameworks for Resilient Institutions. Multidisciplinary Academic Institute of Learning.
16. Ren, Z., Yue, G., Xiao, W., & Fan, Q. (2022). The influence of subjective socioeconomic status on life satisfaction: the chain mediating role of social equity and social trust. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 19(23), 15652.
17. Singh, S., Kshtriya, S., & Valk, R. (2023). Health, hope, and harmony: a systematic review of the determinants of happiness across cultures and countries. International journal of environmental research and public health, 20(4), 3306.
18. Souvatzi, E., Katsikidou, M., Arvaniti, A., Plakias, S., Tsiakiri, A., & Samakouri, M. (2024). Trust in healthcare, medical mistrust, and health outcomes in times of health crisis: a narrative review. Societies, 14(12), 269.
19. Unfried, K., & Priebe, J. (2024). Vaccine hesitancy and trust in sub-Saharan Africa. Scientific Reports, 14(1), 10860.
20. Wang, S. (2024). Confidence in institutions. In Encyclopedia of quality of life and well-being research (pp. 1309-1312). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
21. Xu, H., Zhang, C., & Huang, Y. (2023). Social trust, social capital, and subjective well-being of rural residents: Micro-empirical evidence based on the Chinese General Social Survey (CGSS). Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, 10(1), 49.