

Qualità della vita e dimensioni di benessere

un'analisi empirica per la definizione dei pesi
di un indicatore multidimensionale

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Research Scopes

- Recording the perception of Human Rights and Human Development among Jordanian students and experts
- Verifying preferences and hierarchies among dimension of wellbeing within parts of the Jordan population
- Deriving country-specific compensatory weights to be applied in a multidimensional poverty index

Methodological Framework

- Participatory approach to weight collection, somewhere between the Budget allocation process and the public opinion approach
- 3 different population groups are interviewed: development experts, students and visible poor
- Weights are distributed among 5 pre-selected dimensions of wellbeing, namely: Education, Employment, Health, Housing and Personal Security
- Exact definition in questionnaire: "Please assign a number from 1 to 100 to each dimension according to the importance you personally think they have, making sure that those values sum up to 100"

Beyond the research - a pilot approach

- Testing this methodology is meant to represent a pilot study for national statistical offices that might include this sort of data collection into their survey work
- Jordan IS already planning to construct national multidimensional poverty measures and could adopt this approach
- In addition to defining weights, the fieldwork has also collected other possible dimensions of wellbeing that could be included in a multidimensional indicator

Alternative weighting methods

- Equal weighting
- Statistical methods

Factor analysis, Data Envelope Analysis, Unobserved components model

- Participatory methods

Budget allocation process

Analytic hierarchy process

Conjoint analysis

Why no Statistical weighting method?

- Solid theoretical framework that we WANT to be reflected in the construction of the indicator
- Reliability and significance of included data have been tested before the construction phase

Correlations between different dimensions are rather low - never above 0.2

Correlations within the single dimensions are rather high - between 0.4 and 0.8

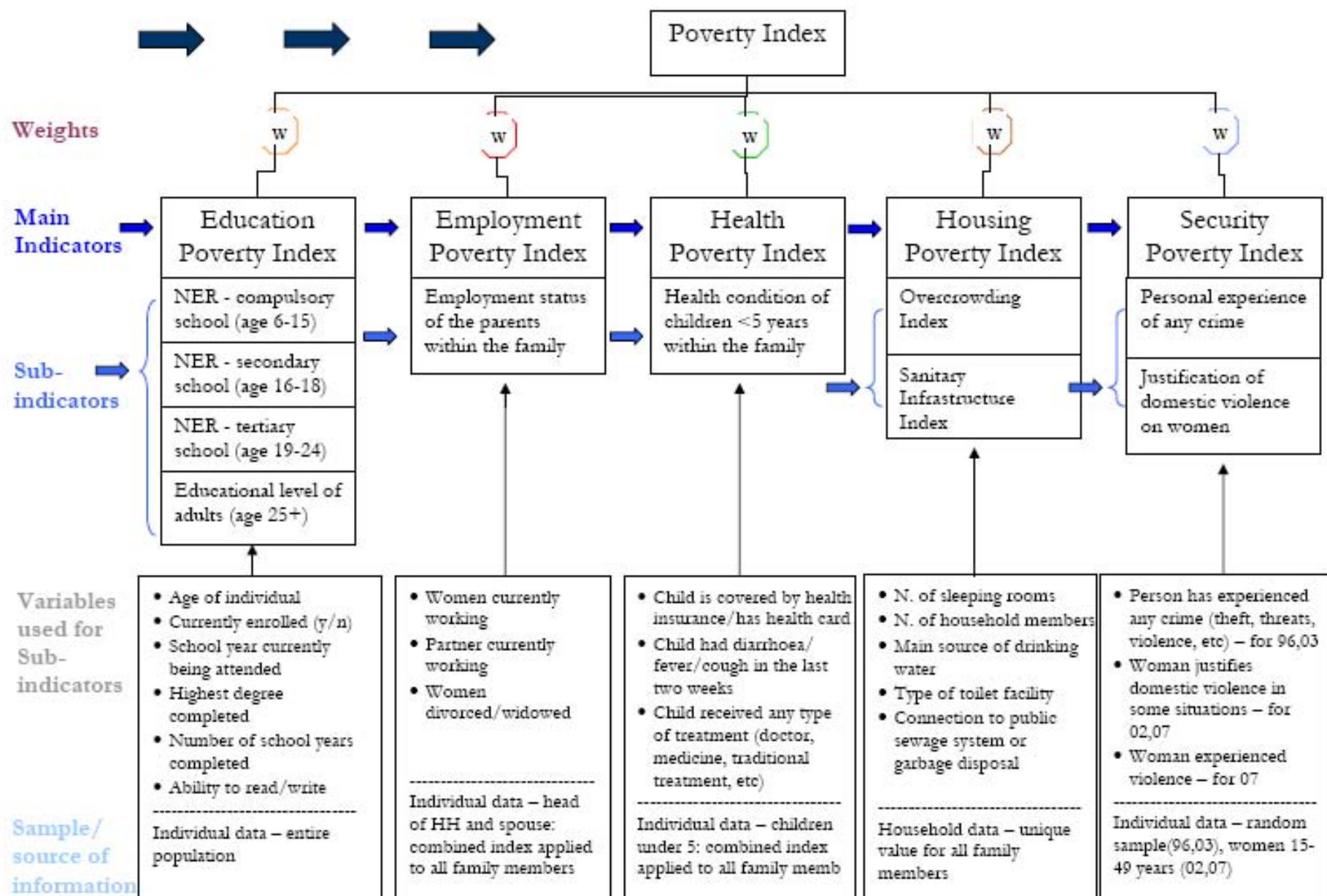
Pros and Contrasts of the methodology

PROs

- Allows to estimate and consider differences in wellbeing perceptions between policy-makers and segments of the population
- Experts involvement increases the legitimacy of the indicator and stimulates discussion to reach a consensus for political action

CONTRAs

- Meaning attributed to the weights is slightly different among experts than among civil population
- Weights can be excessively influenced by personal opinions or by local conditions

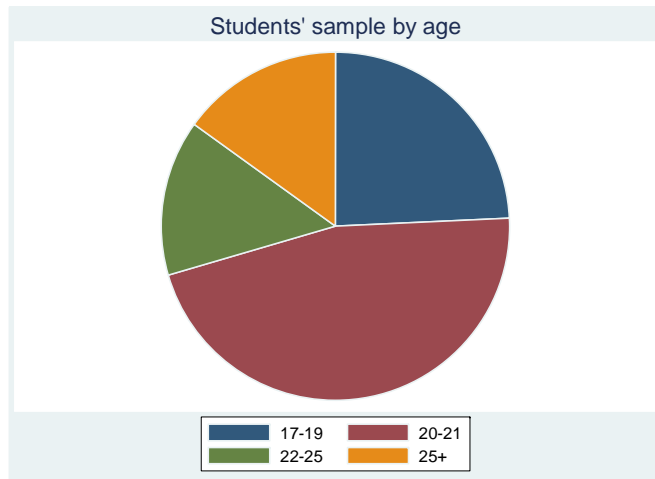


Methodology

Questionnaire for students in Arabic

Questionnaire and discussion with experts

| Faculty | N. of students |
|--------------|----------------|
| Law | 197 |
| Business | 256 |
| Medicine | 129 |
| Education | 198 |
| Architecture | 207 |



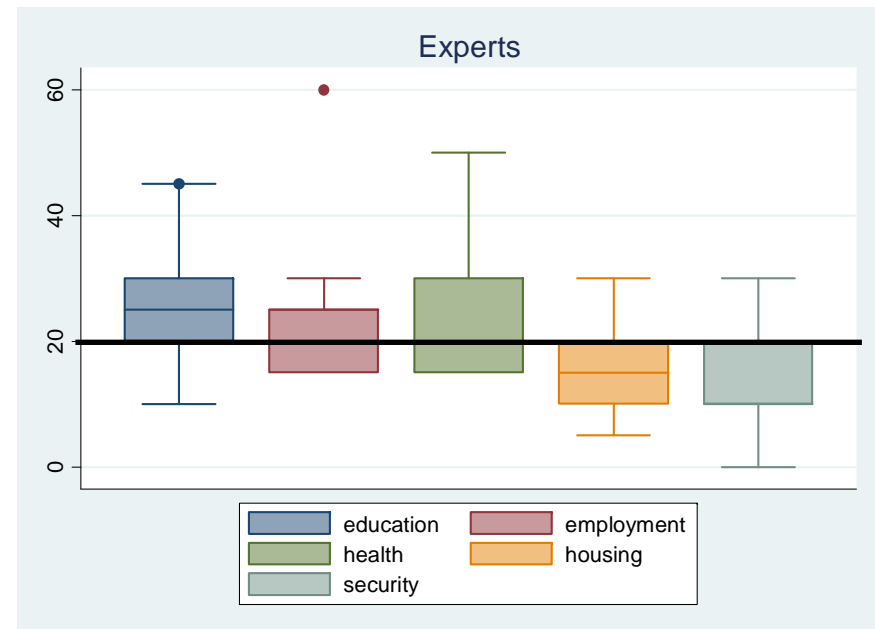
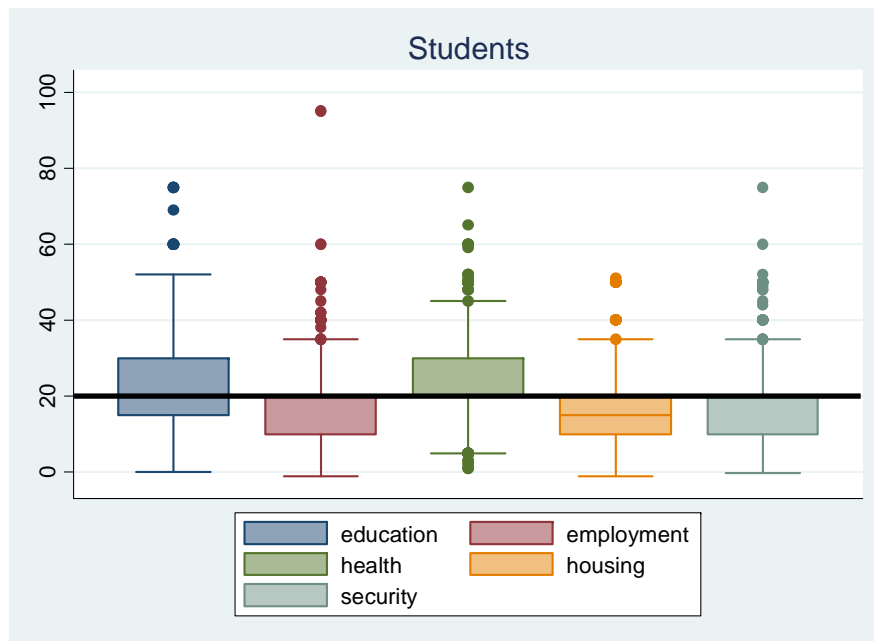
| Name of Institution | Type of Institution |
|--|--|
| Friends of Children | Jordanian NGO – Refugee focus |
| Higher Council for Human Rights | Jordanian semi-governmental organization |
| Jordan Environment Society | Jordanian NGO |
| Ministry of Planning – Policy Department | Jordanian Government |
| Ministry of Planning – Evaluation Division | Jordanian Government |
| Ministry of Social Affairs | Jordanian Government |
| National Aid Fund | Jordanian Government |
| UNDP – Quality of Life & Poverty Programme | UN agency |
| UNICEF – Adolescent Development | UN agency |
| University of Jordan – different faculties | National academic research |
| USAID – Rule of Law Project | Bilateral cooperation |

Limits of the fieldwork implementation

- Survey sample not representative
- Dimensions were chosen ex-ante
- Data collection among the visible poor is missing

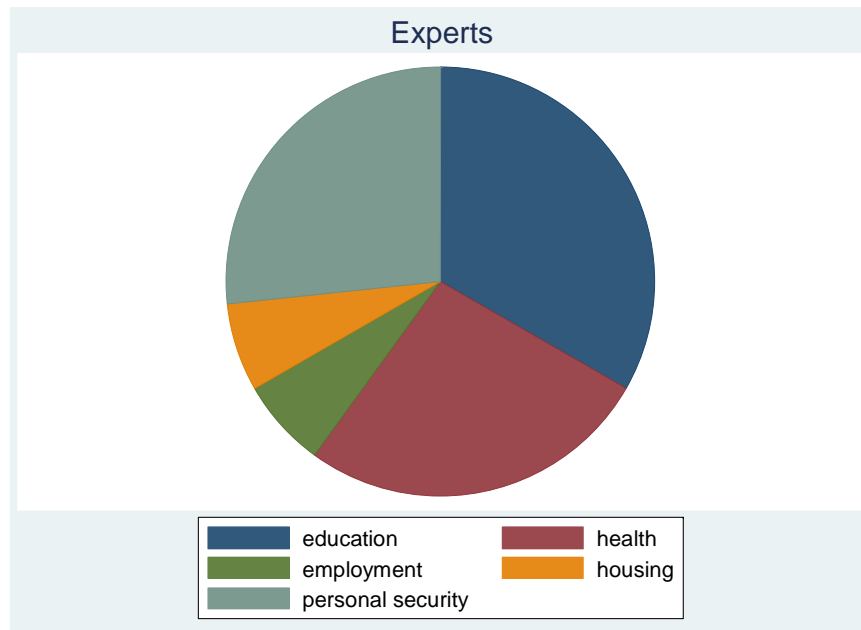
Differences in weights for dimensions of wellbeing - Students vs. Experts

Proportions

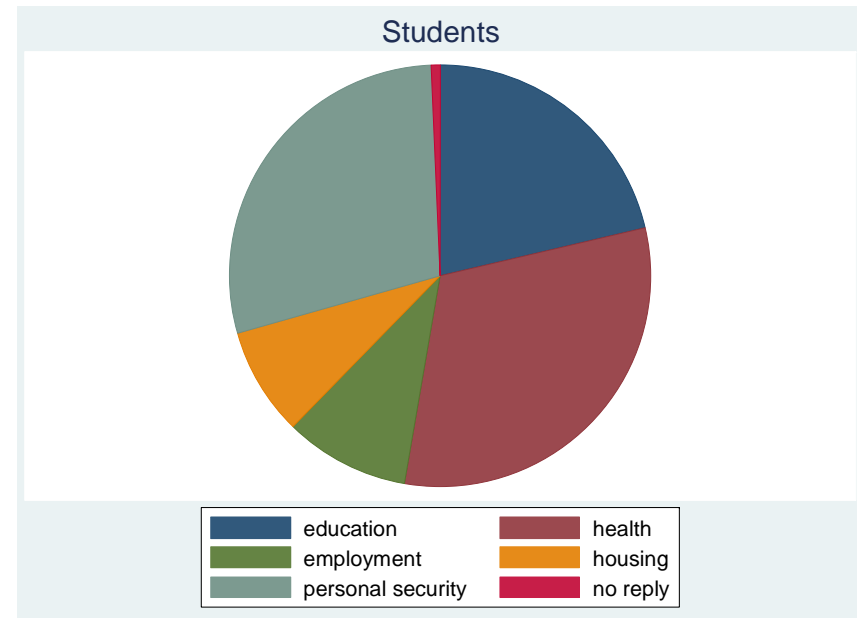


Differences in weights for dimensions of wellbeing - Students vs. Experts Hierarchies

Dimensions within which a maximum achievement should be considered as a right of human beings



Florence 2010

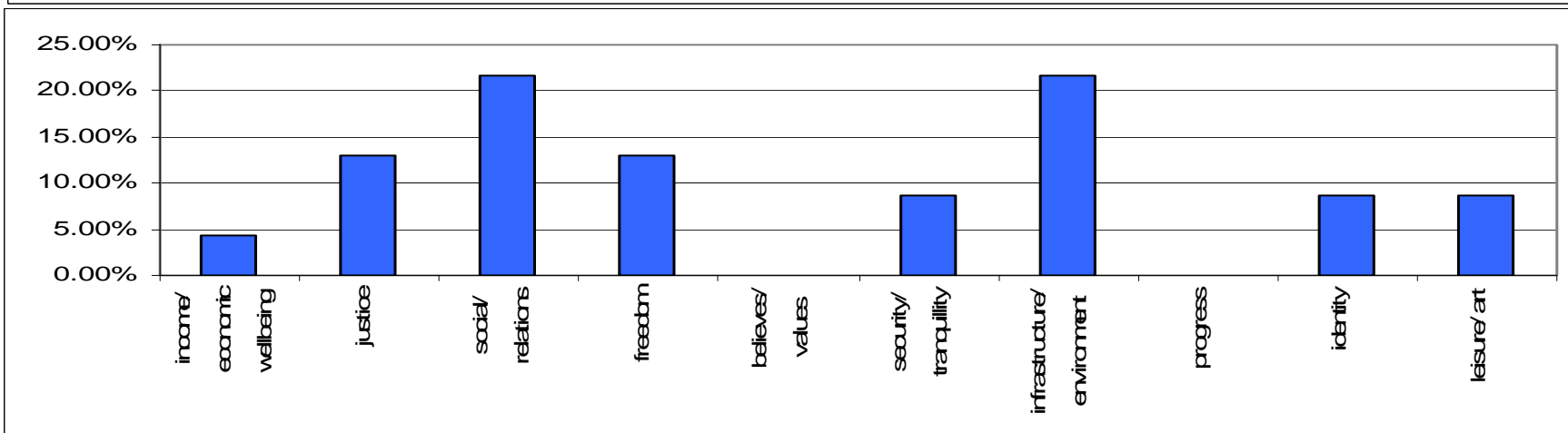
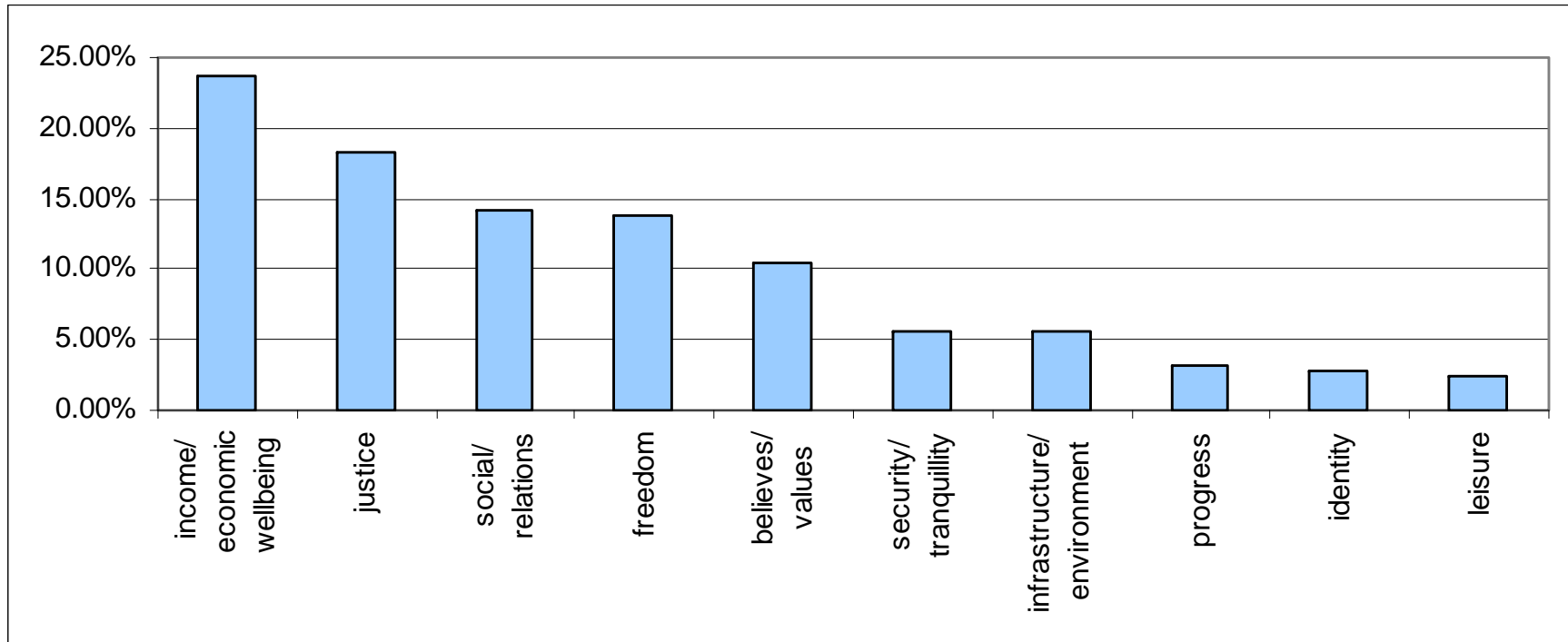


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Differences in weights for dimensions of wellbeing - Students vs. Experts

| Experts | | | | | | |
|------------|------|--------|------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Dimension | Mean | Median | Mode | Minimum Achievement | Average ranking (sum) | Final ranking (rescaled) |
| Education | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| Employment | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| Health | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 3 |
| Housing | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 4 |
| Security | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 14 | 5 |
| Students | | | | | | |
| Dimension | Mean | Median | Mode | Minimum Achievement | Average ranking (sum) | Final ranking (rescaled) |
| Education | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| Employment | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 3 |
| Health | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Housing | 5 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 4 |
| Security | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 2 |

Other relevant dimensions of wellbeing



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Synthesis

- Strengths

Useful tool for testing the robustness of the composite indicator

Useful tool for policy consulting

- Open Issues

How can the questionnaire be improved?

How can subjective weights be combined with time trend analyses?

How often should weights be collected?

Should a representative sample be preferred to a selection of experts?

Thank you for your attention

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