

MIGWELL: SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NATIVE- AND FOREIGN-BORN PEOPLE IN AUSTRIA



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Well-being and Migration:

The Hungary – Austria Migration Nexus



AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
INSTITUTE FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL RESEARCH

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NATIONAL
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION OFFICE

A MAGYAR REGIONÁLIS TUDOMÁNYI
TÁRSASÁG XXI. VÁNDORGYŰLÉSE
2023. 11. 02.

Dávid Sümeghy
ISR Austrian Academy of Sciences

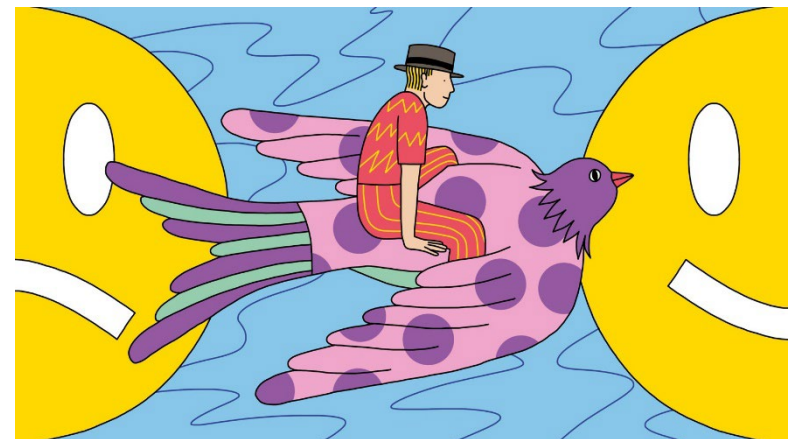
Introduction



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Well-being and Migration:
The Hungary – Austria Migration Nexus

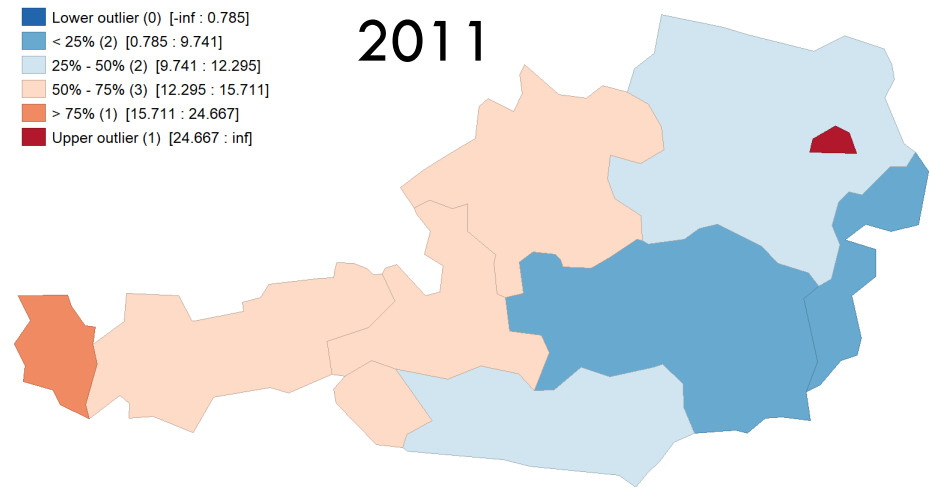
- Integration problems
- Policies based on well-being
- Happiness gain/drain
- Impact on the natives



Source: The Atlantic

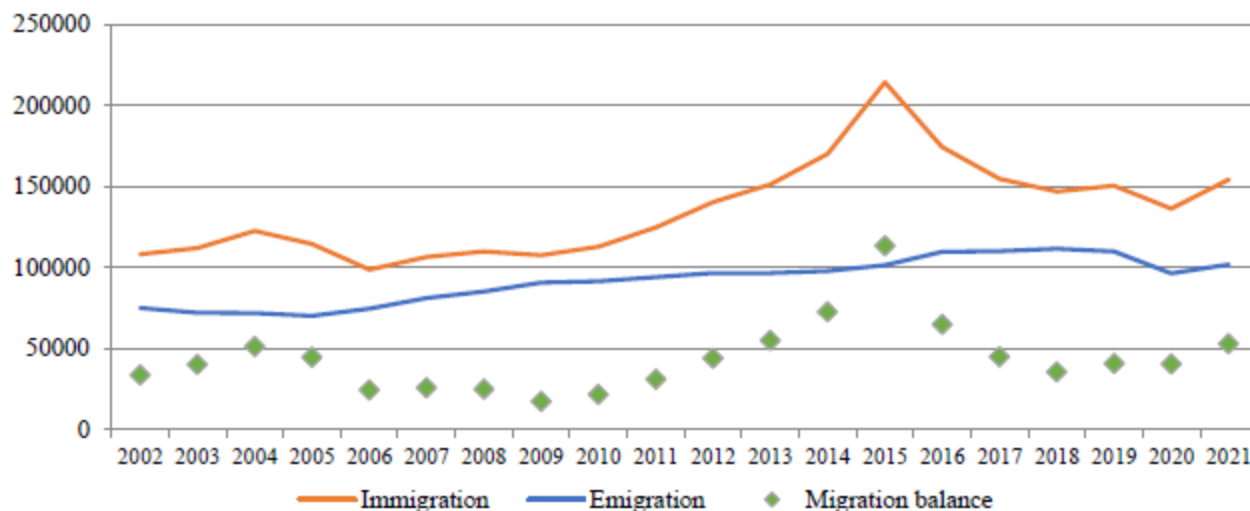
Migration to Austria

- Immigration waves
 - Guest workers
 - Yugoslav refugees
 - EU eastern expansion
 - 2015 refugee crisis



Source: Own map, based on Eurostat data

Source: Németh et al. (2023)



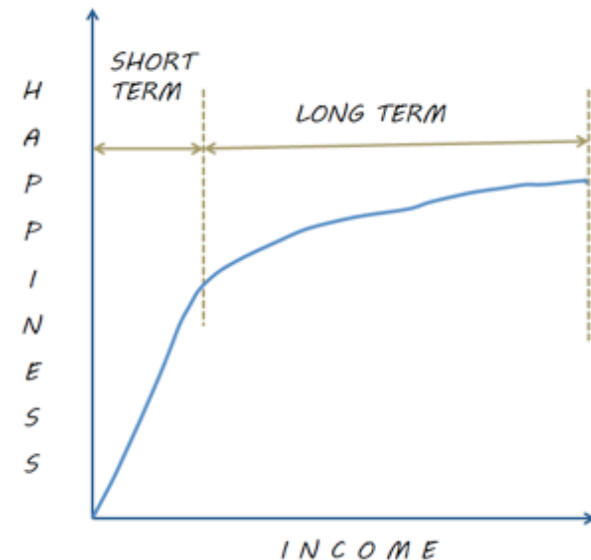
Subjective well-being



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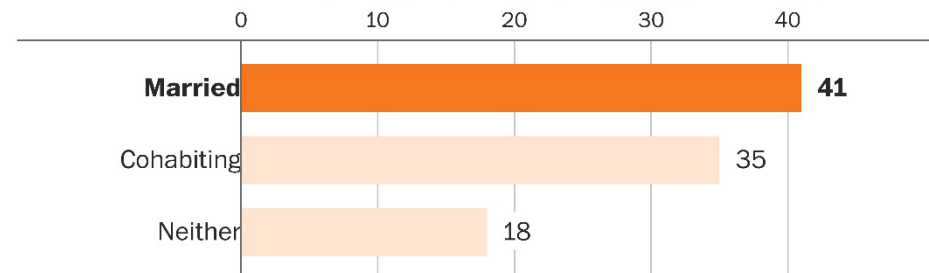
Well-being and Migration:
The Hungary – Austria Migration Nexus

- Income
 - ▣ Easterlin paradox
 - ▣ Relative position
- Other factors
 - ▣ Social cohesion
 - ▣ Overeducation
 - ▣ Marriage
 - ▣ Genetics



The marriage happiness premium

Share of American adults reporting they are “very happy,” by relationship status



Source: General Social Survey

The Washington Post

Migration and SWB



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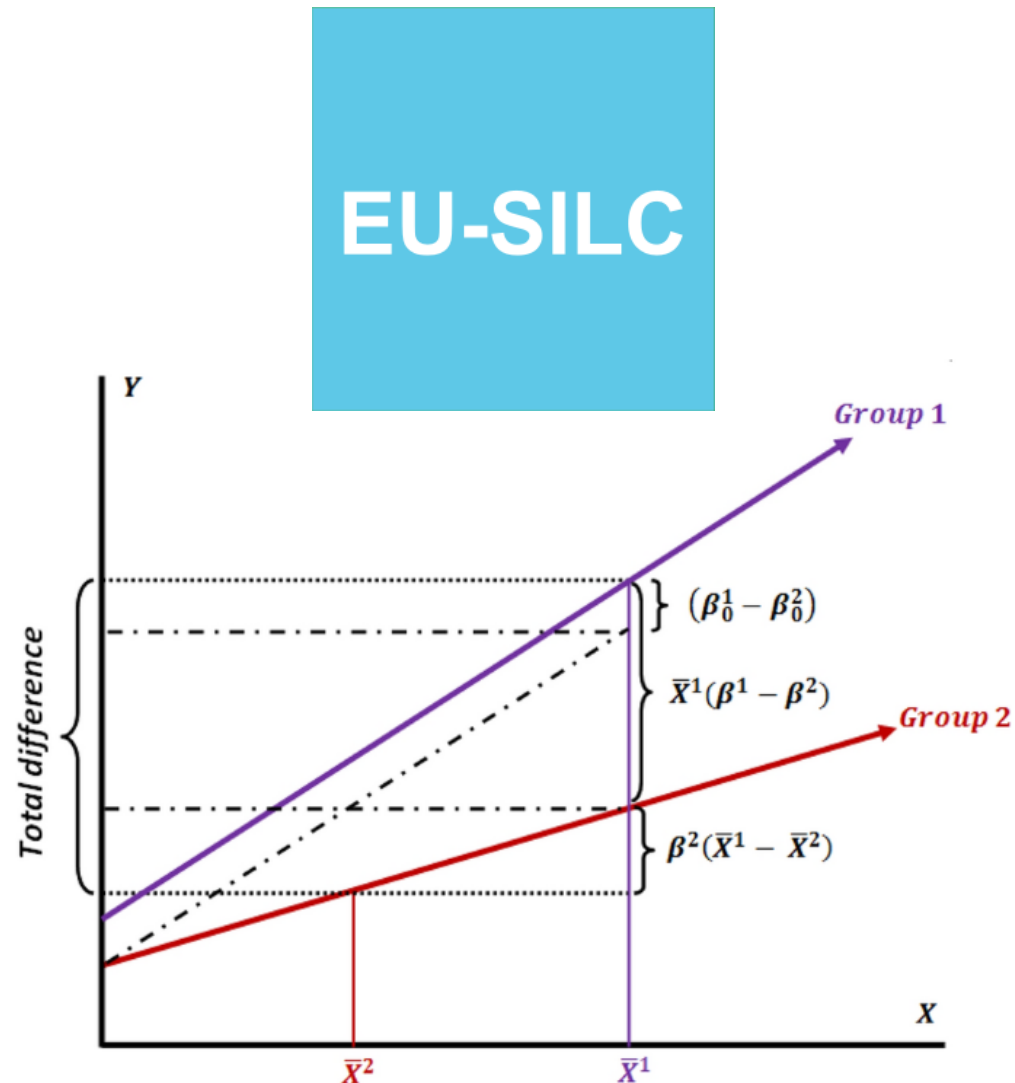
Well-being and Migration:
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- Lower levels of SWB
 - ▣ Unfavourable comparison
 - ▣ High expectations
 - ▣ Acculturative stress
- Less social interaction
- Left-behind families, remittances



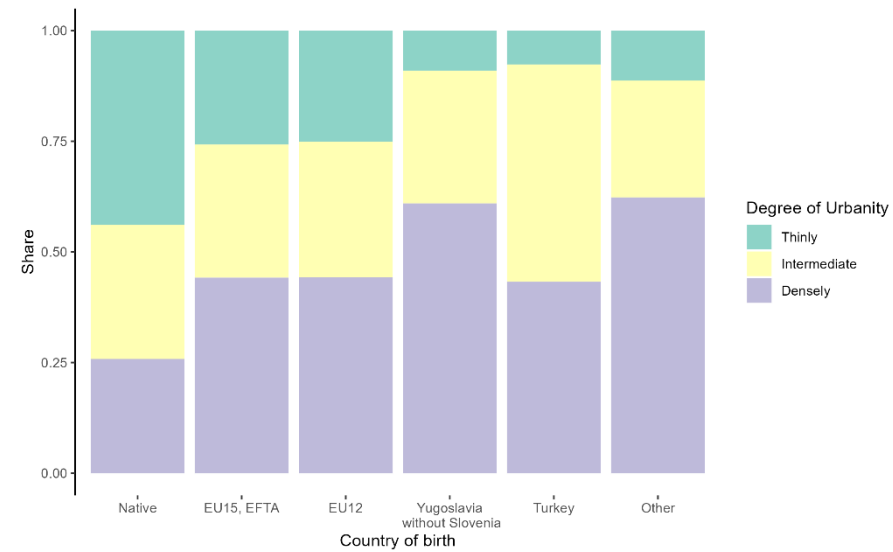
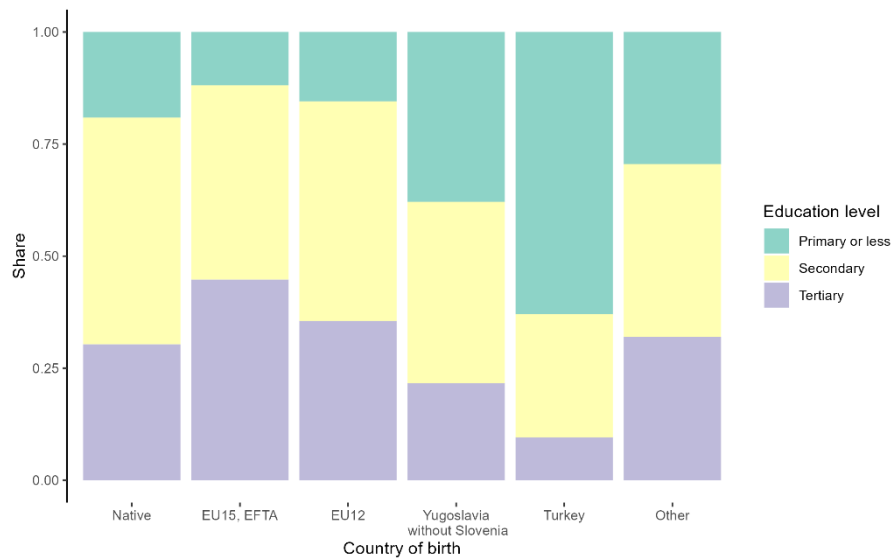
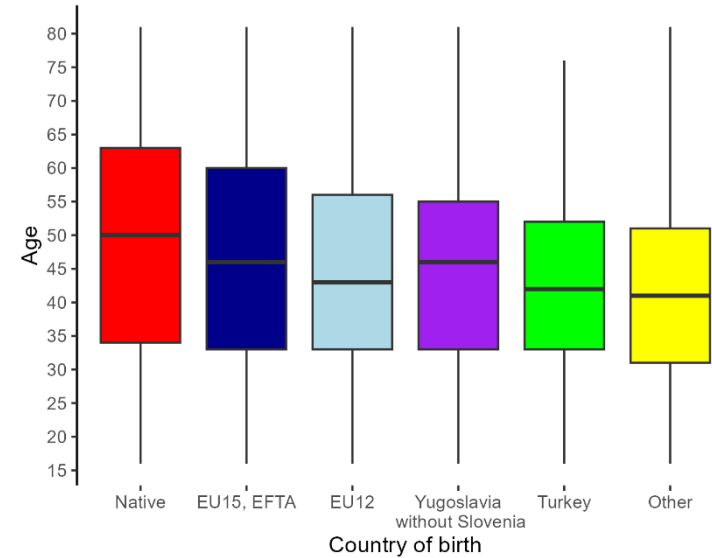
Data & methods

- EU-SILC 2018
 - N=10627
 - 15.1% immigrant
- OLS regression (Ferrer-i-Carbonell & Frijters, 2004)
- Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition



Sociocconomics

- Immigrants
 - Younger
 - Bigger household size
 - Lesser educated
 - Living in cities



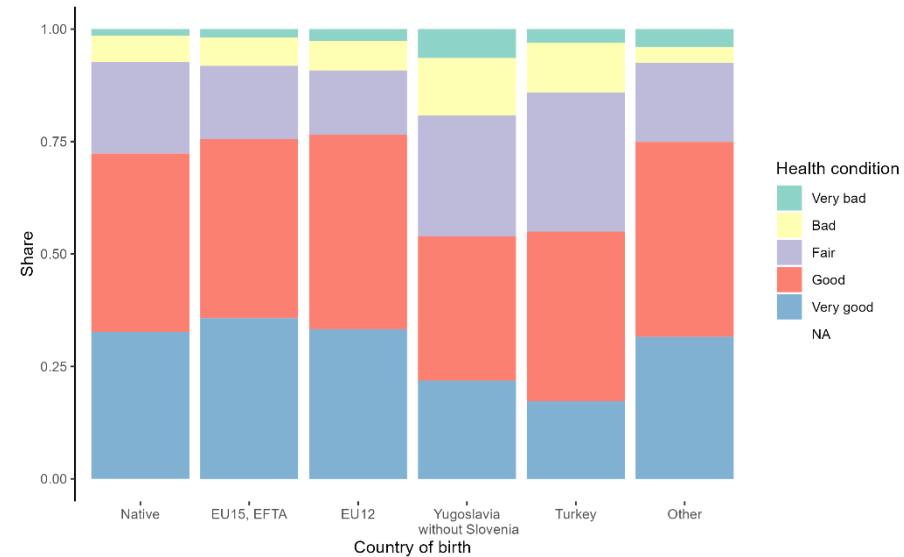
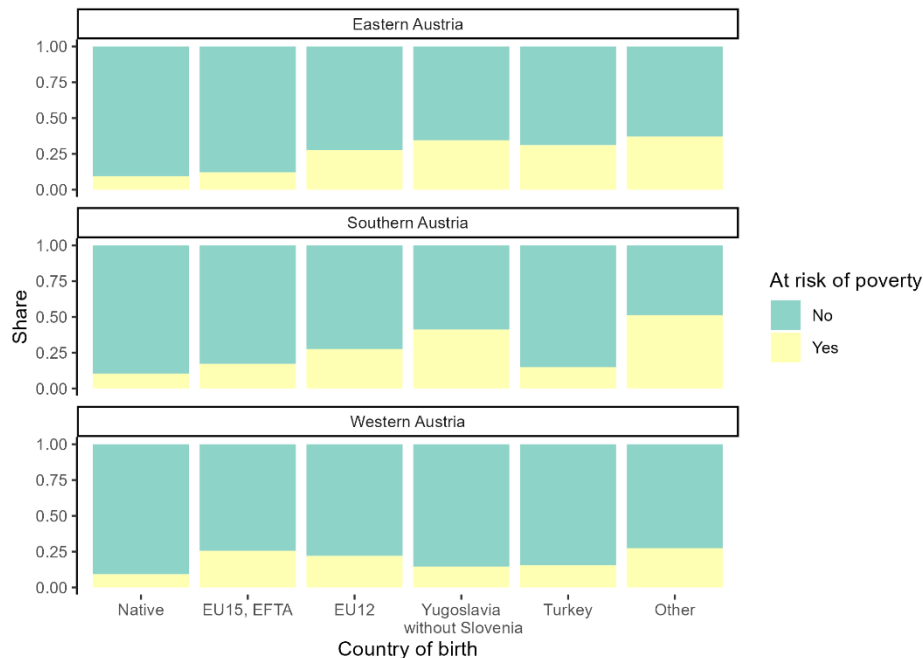
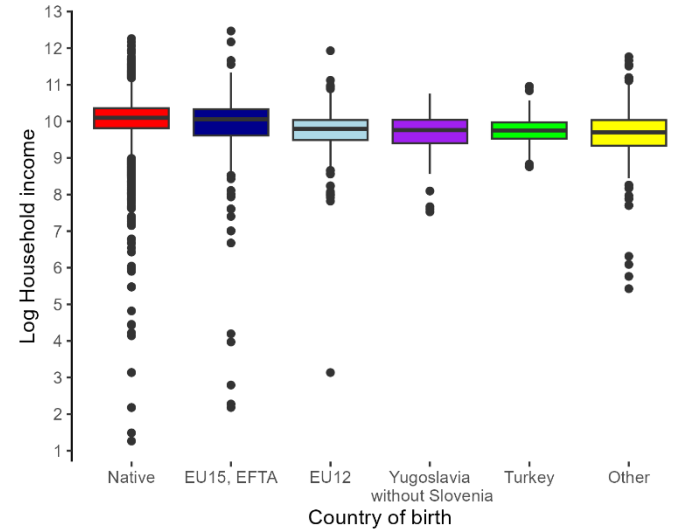
Objective well-being



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- Minor income differences
- Immigrants are more prone to risk of poverty
- Generally good health conditions



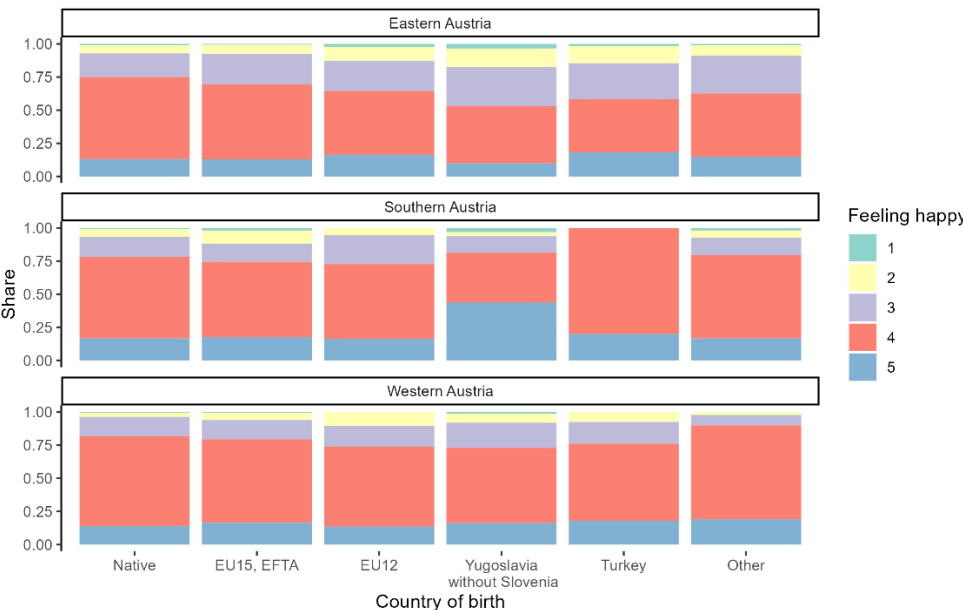
Subjective well-being



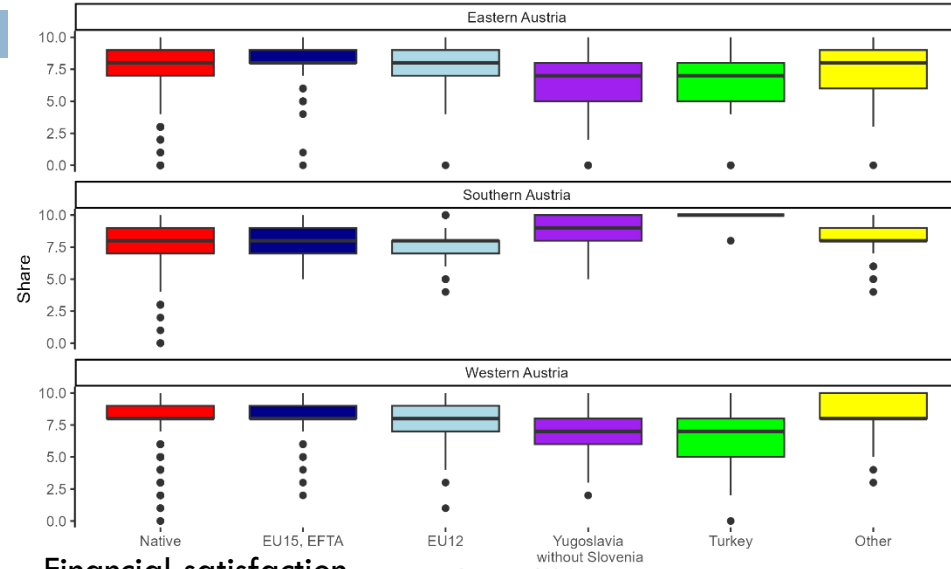
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Well-being and Migration:
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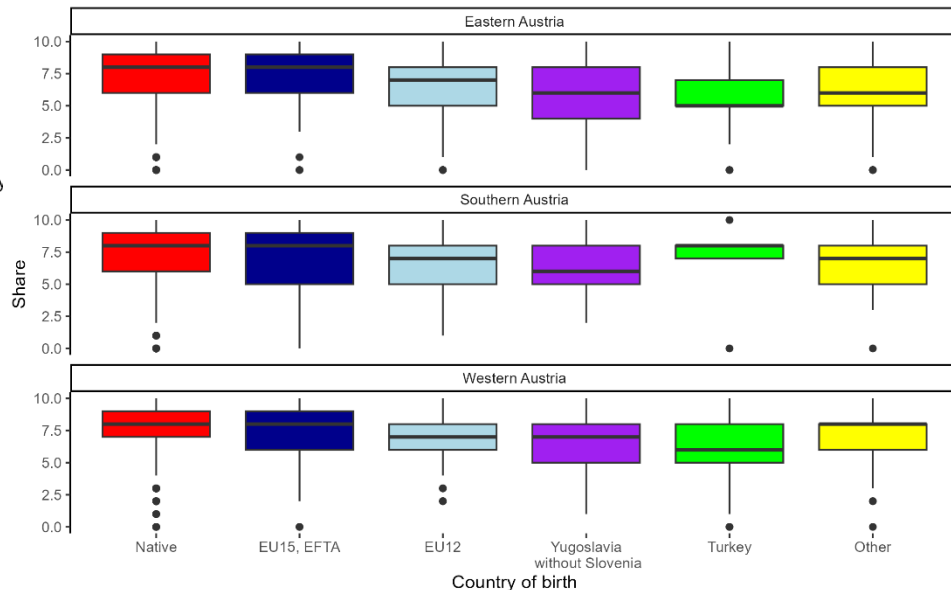
- Regional differences
- Similar overall, diverging financial swb
- Happy country



Overall satisfaction



Financial satisfaction



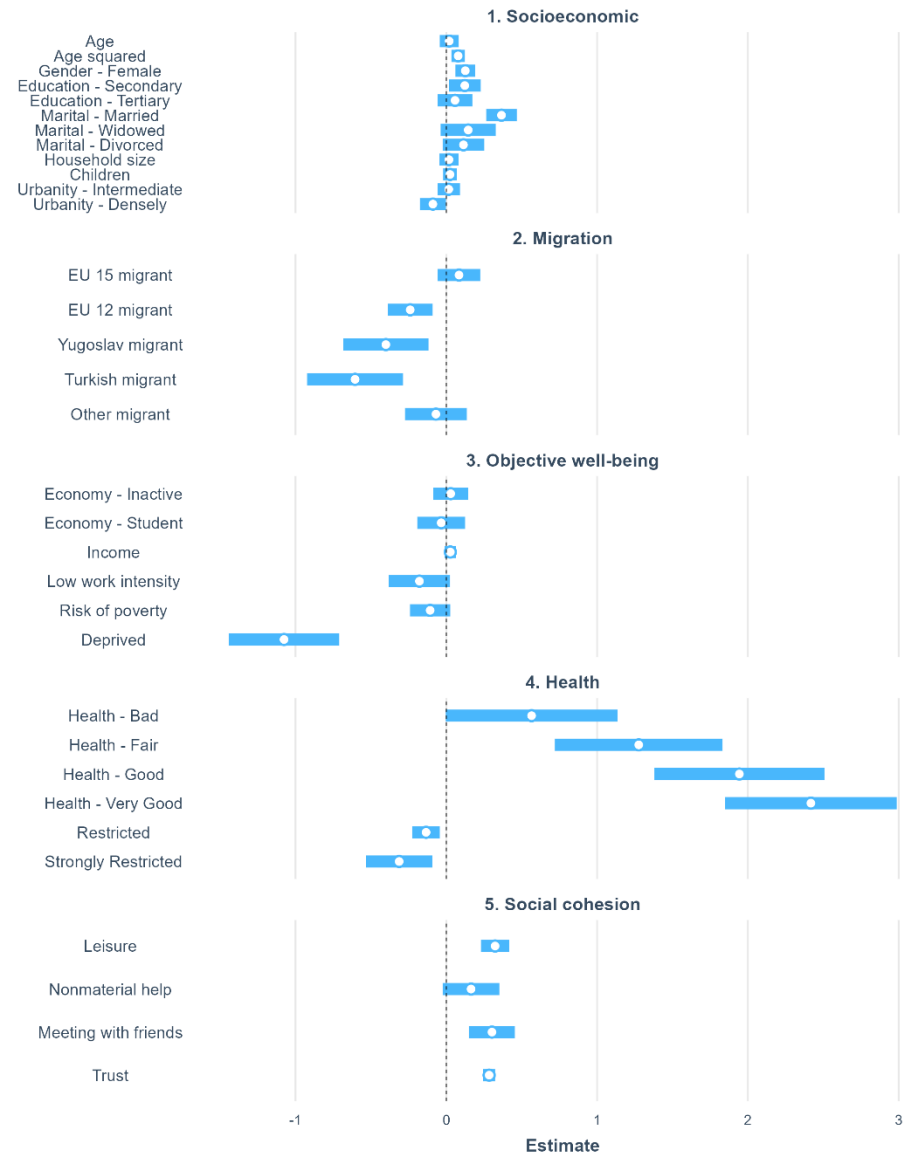
Modeling overall satisfaction



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- Different effects of education
- Migration – lower SWB
- Income is not the main factor
- Importance of health
- Active social participation



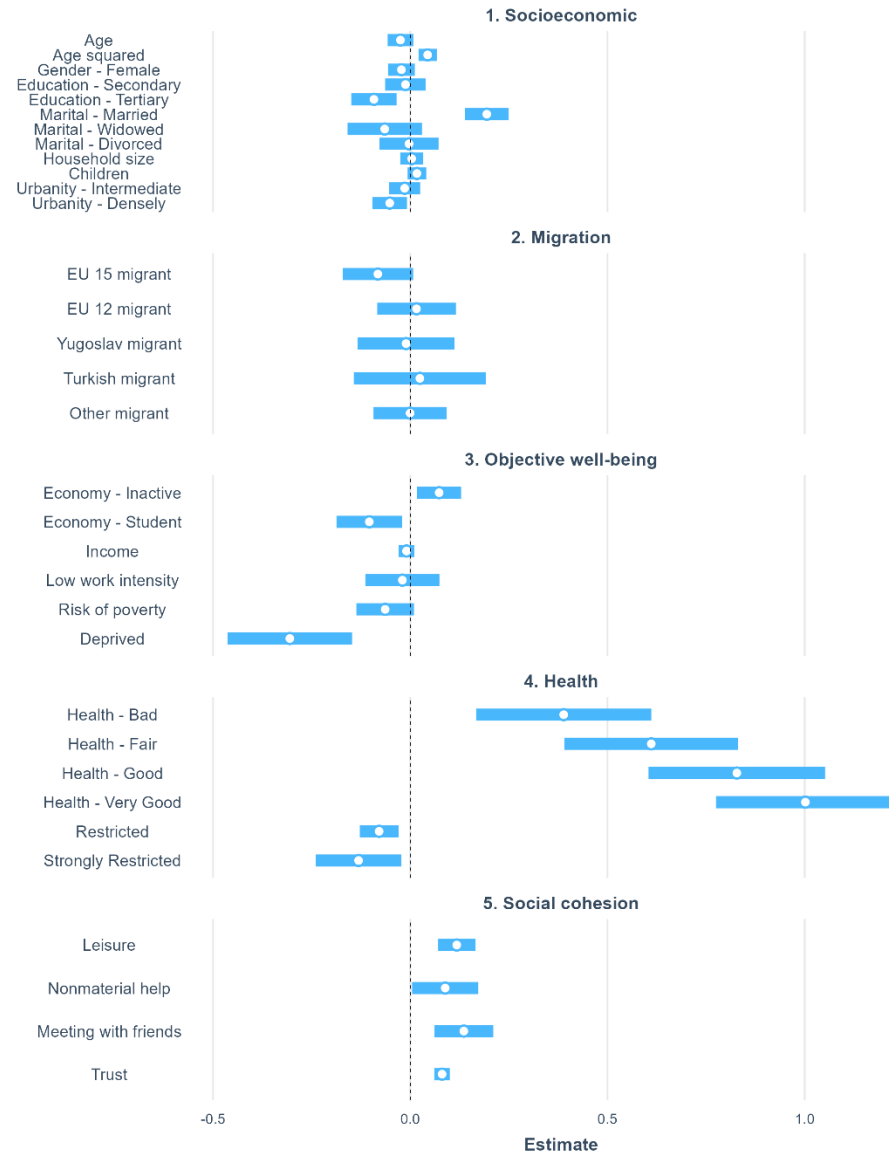
Modeling happiness



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- Marriage
- No relationship with migration
- Deprivation
- Importance of health and work restriction
- Active social participation



Overall satisfaction vs happiness



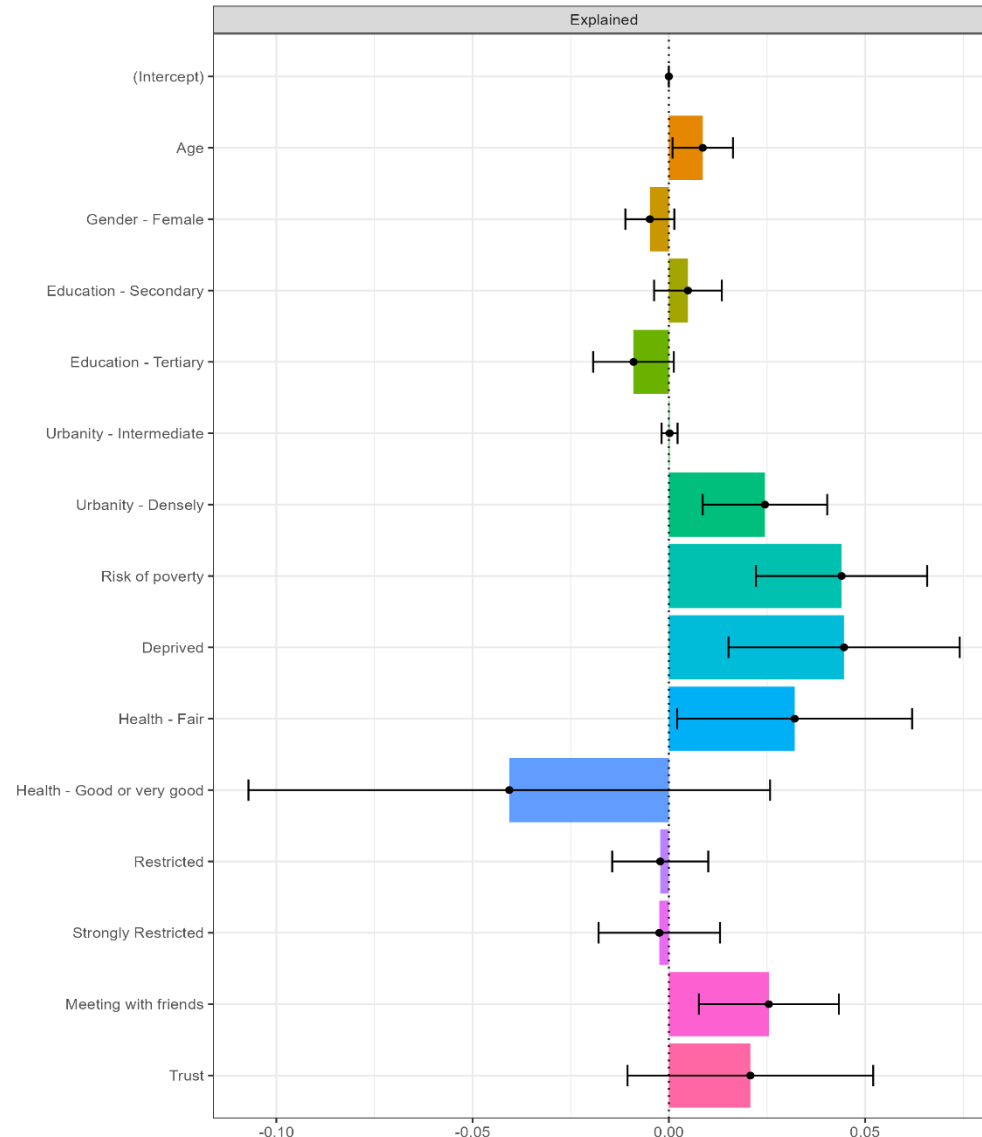
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Well-being and Migration:
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Variable	Ov. stf	Happy	Variable	Ov. stf	Happy
Gender – Female	<input type="checkbox"/>		Health – Bad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education – Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>		Health – Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education – Tertiary		<input type="checkbox"/>	Health – Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marital – Married	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health – Very Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urbanity – Densely	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EU 12 migrant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Strongly Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yugoslav migrant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Leisure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turkish migrant	<input type="checkbox"/>		Nonmaterial help		<input type="checkbox"/>
Economy – Inactive		<input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting with friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economy – Student	<input type="checkbox"/>		Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deprived	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Satisfaction decomposition



- 0.36 satisfaction gap
 - ▣ 0.14 explained
 - ▣ 0.22 unexplained
- Age, deprivation, health, social differences
- Discrimination, culture



Conclusions

- Slight objective SWB differences
- Regional differences
- Migration has a negative relationship with overall satisfaction, but not with happiness
- Health, social cohesion, urban environment
- $\sim 2/3$ of the SWB gap is unexplainable



Thank you for your attention!