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Connecting growth, well-being and health: experience of the Netherlands

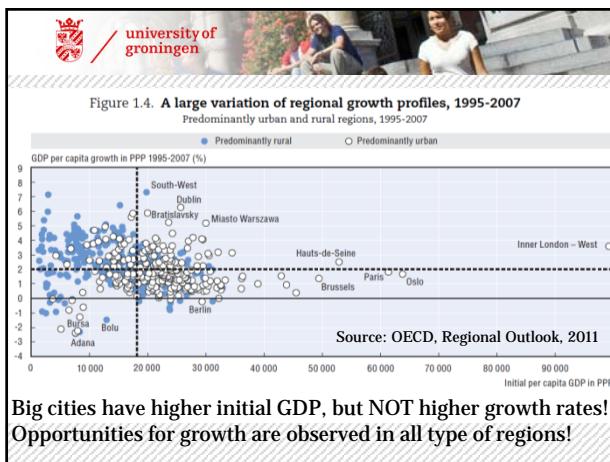
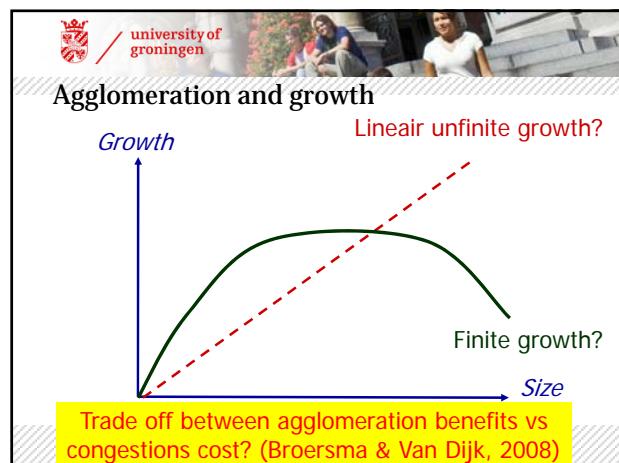
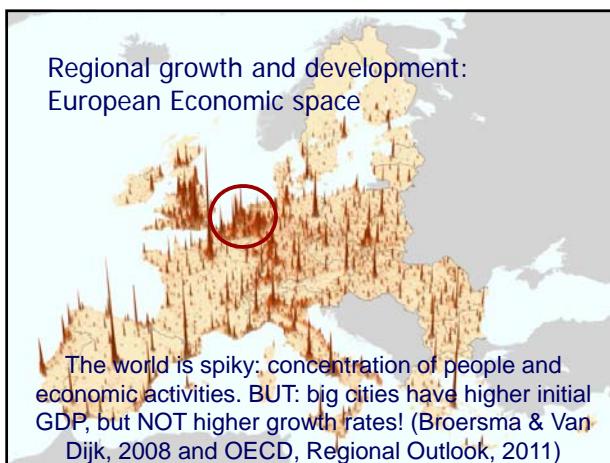
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Presentation OECD Mission in Southern Denmark, October 9th - 10th 2013

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Overview

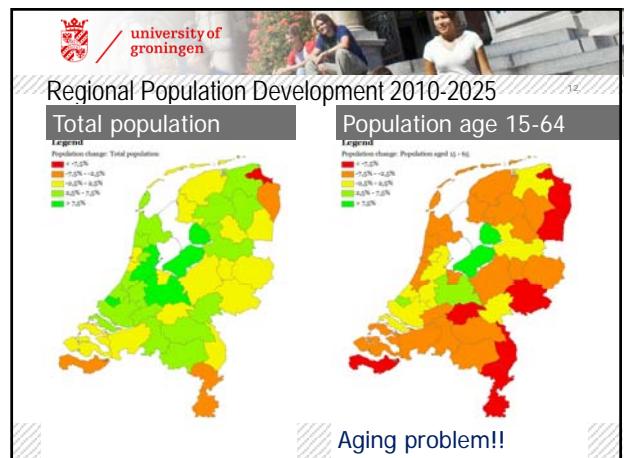
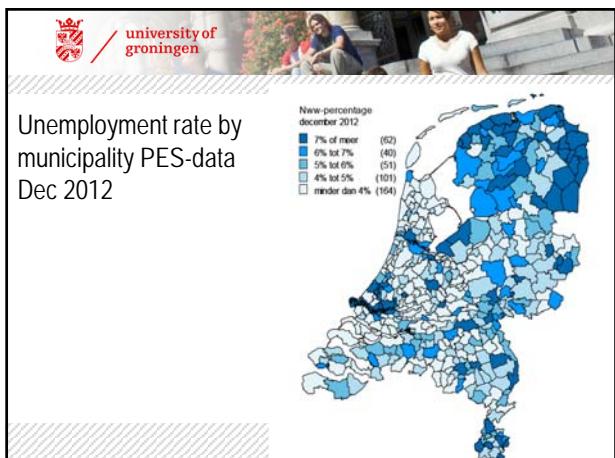
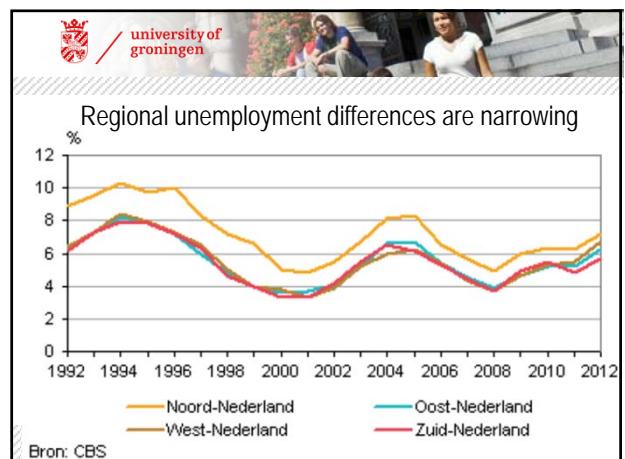
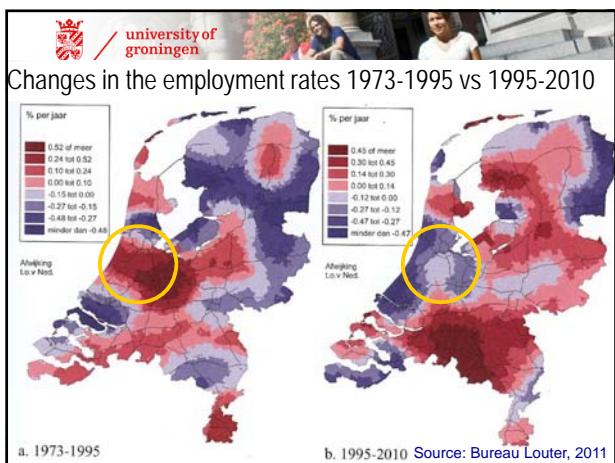
- > Growth
- > Well-being
- > Health
- > Conceptual issues
- > Measurement issues
- > Variation over persons, households
- > Variation over time and space

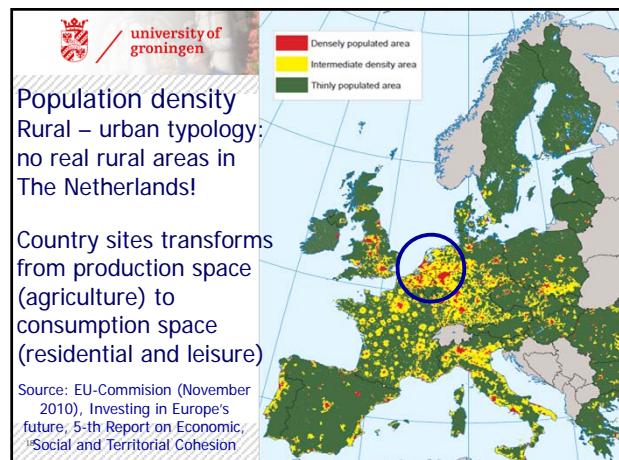
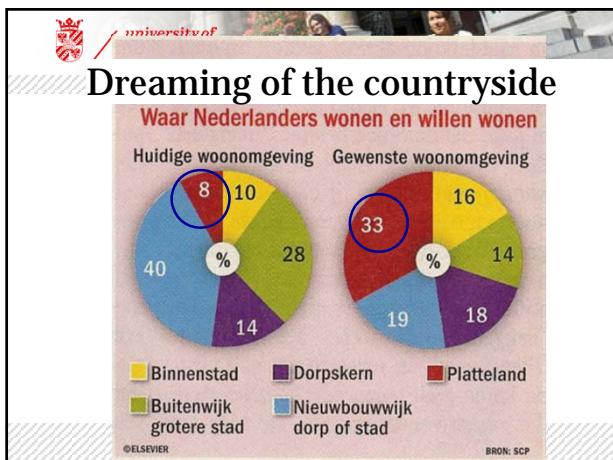
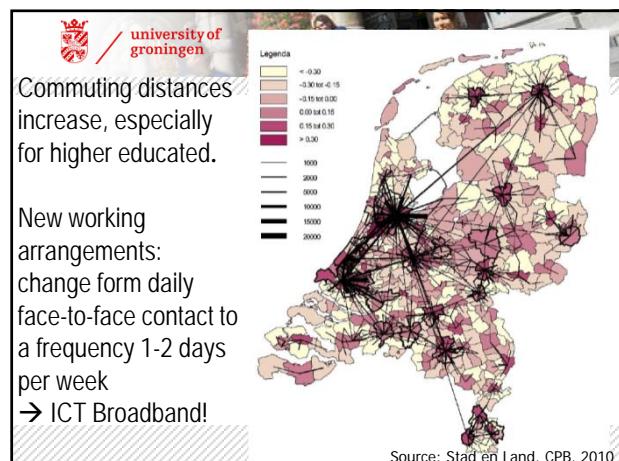
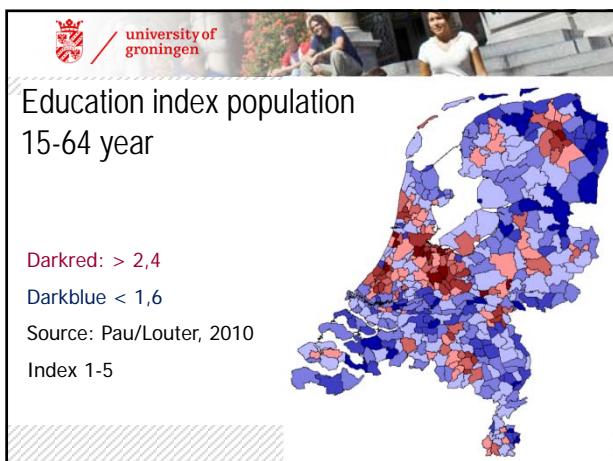
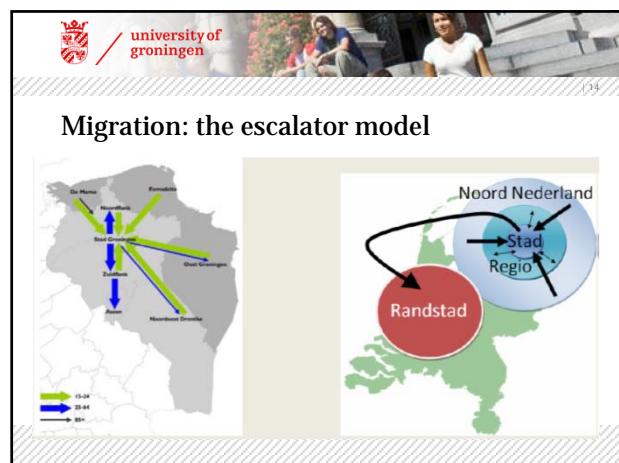
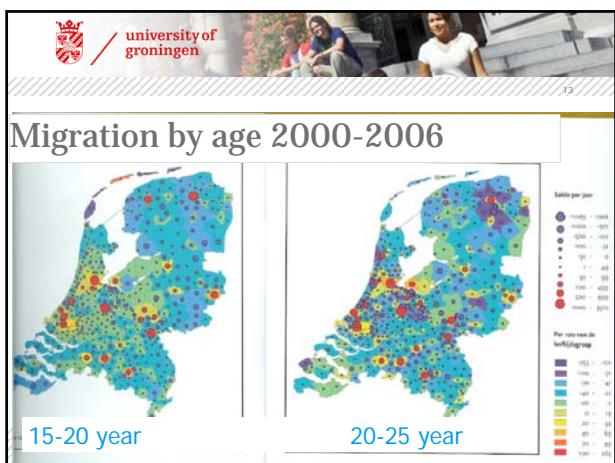


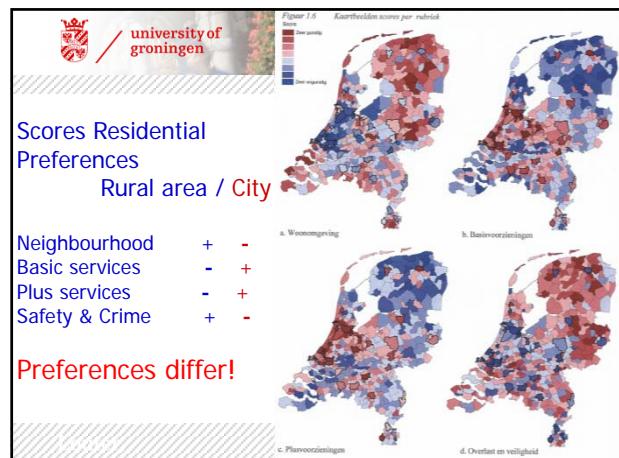
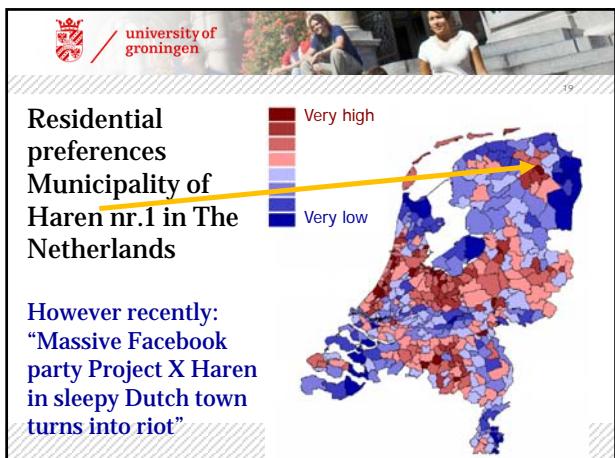
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The Role and Value of Big Cities from pure economic and broad well-being perspective

- > **ECONOMIC:** Big cities have higher productivity, generate more knowledge outcomes (patents, innovations, copyrights, licenses), have higher human capital – both stocks and inflows
- > **But also: higher land and housing/land prices**
- > **WELL-BEING:** Big cities have high quality services and amenities like universities, musea, concerts
- > **But also: more traffic jams, more air pollution, more crime, higher risk of being the target of war and terrorist attacks**







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The future of cities in the world:
Shifts in the spatial structure of the economy? (Broersma/Van Dijk, 2008)?
Scale effects in production (Krugman, NEG) versus amenities (Philip Graves; Partridge, 2011)
Concentration followed by spread effects?
Access to services: broadband, health, education, banking
Environmental and social sustainability: less traffic, renewable energy, environmental protection, climate change, safety, social cohesion, house with a garden

→ Focus on well-being, quality of life, livability and sustainability (amenities)

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Well-being

- > The problem of **definition**
short term: emotional feelings of happiness
- > Many terms for more or less the same thing (how well one's life is going)
long term: life satisfaction
 - Quality of life
 - Welfare
 - Health
 - Happiness

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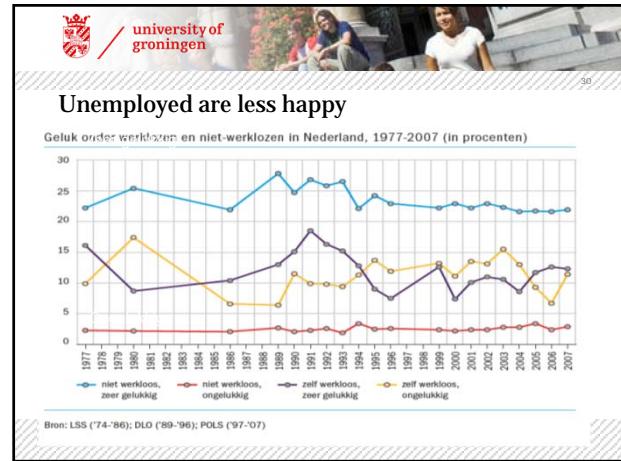
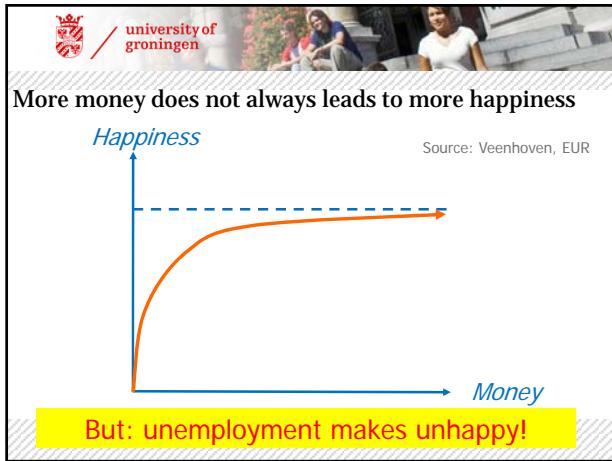
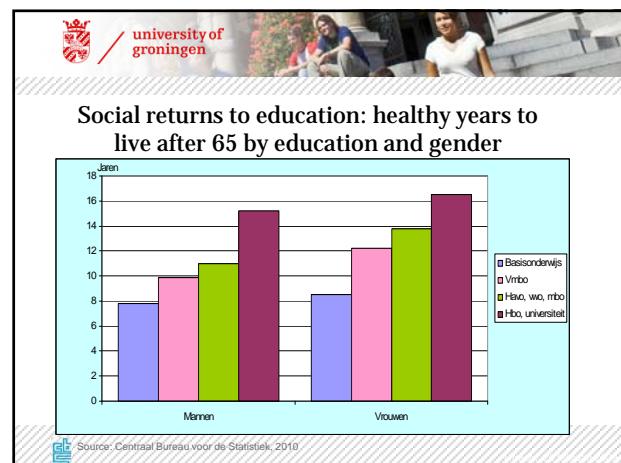
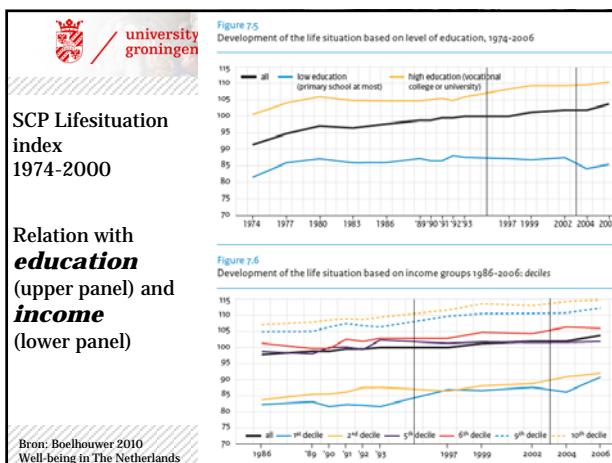
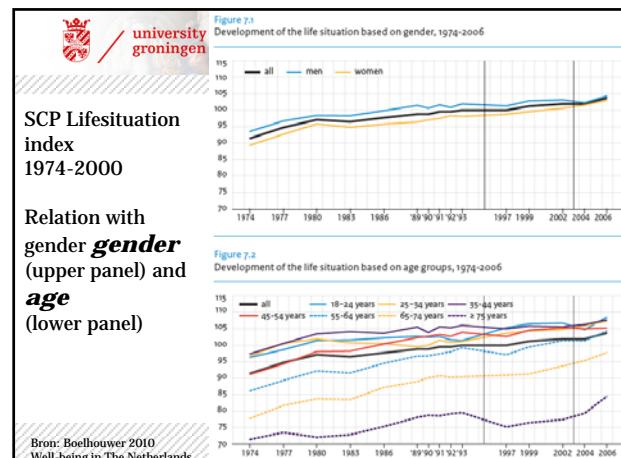
People's Well-being: changing preferences

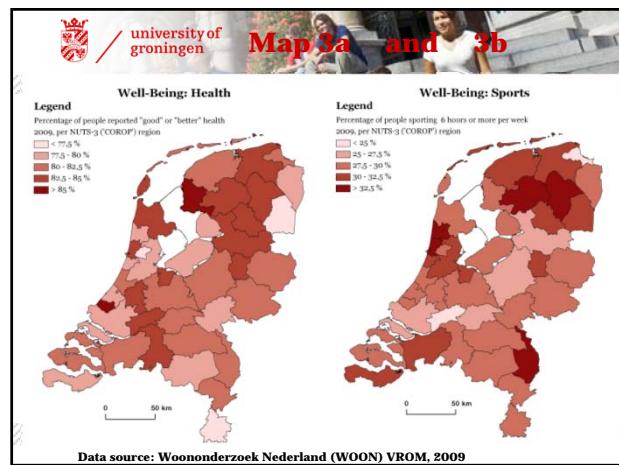
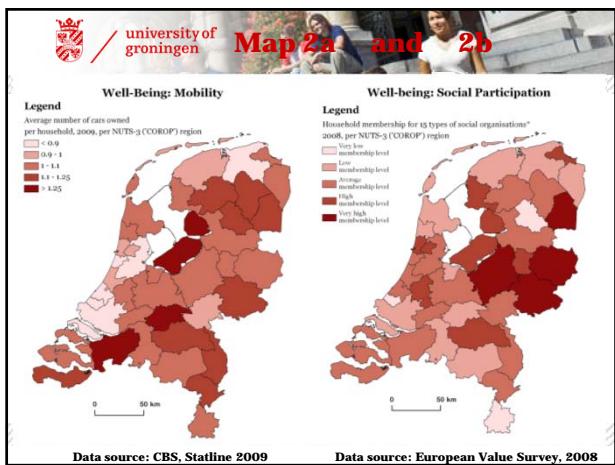
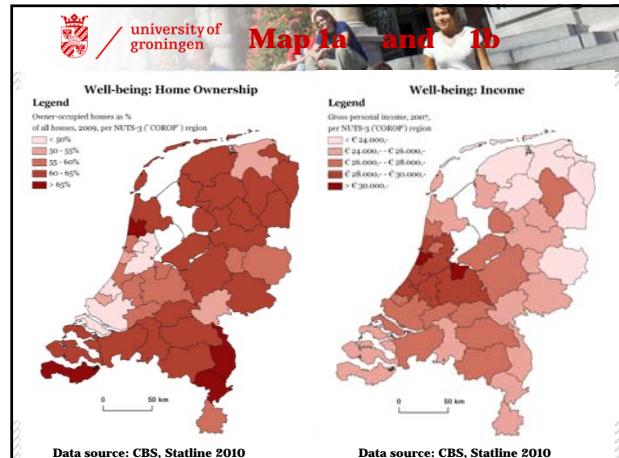
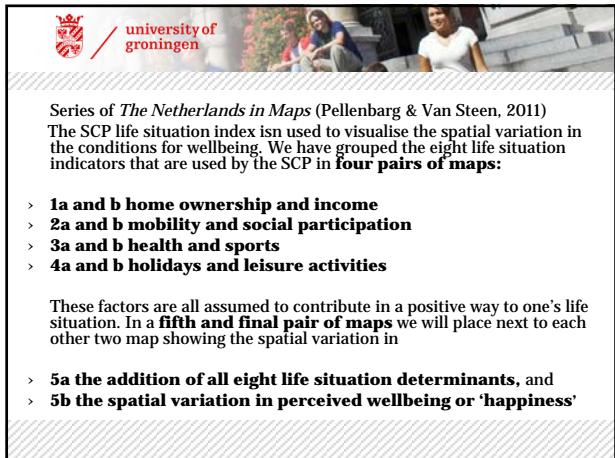
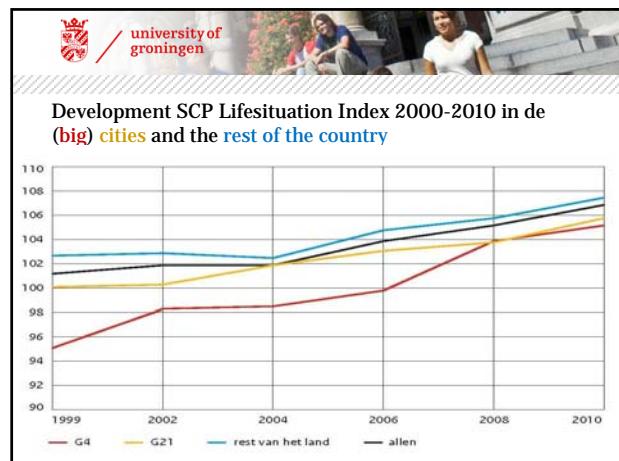
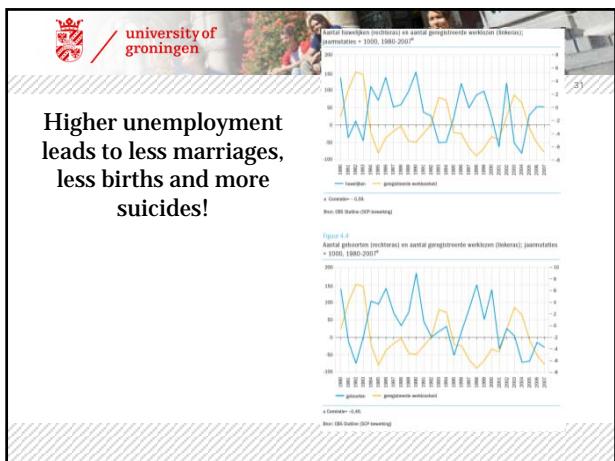
Objective measures	Subjective measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Life expectancy > Mortality rates > Poverty > Crime > Income > Un-/employment > Education > Gender balance > Working hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Health perception > Access to services > Material deprivation > Safety and trust > Life satisfaction > Happiness > Capabilities > Equal opportunities > Work life balance

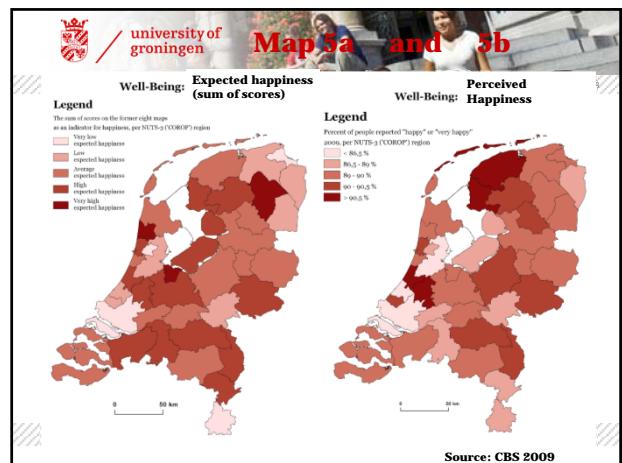
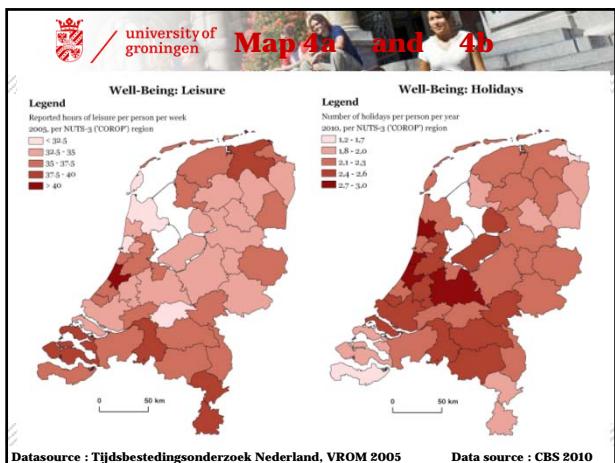
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http://www.nature.com/news/2011/110202/full/470018a.html?s=news_rss

- > From the article:
Social science lines up its biggest challenges
- > **Top ten social-science questions**
 1. **How can we induce people to look after their health?**
 2. How do societies create effective and resilient institutions, such as governments?
 3. How can humanity increase its collective wisdom?
 4. How do we reduce the skill gap between black and white people in America?
 5. How can we aggregate information possessed by individuals to make the best decisions?
 6. How can we understand the human capacity to create and articulate knowledge?
 7. Why do so many female workers still earn less than male workers?
 8. How and why does the social become 'biological'?
 9. How can we be robust against 'black swans' – rare events that have extreme consequences?
 10. Why do social processes, in particular civil violence, either persist over time or suddenly change?







Qualitative (visual) analysis of map similarities

- Larger urban regions (especially Amsterdam and The Hague/Rotterdam) have a low score on both maps
- The same is true for serious population decline regions (East Groningen, South Limburg)
- Higher values for 'expected' and 'perceived' happiness appear for rural regions - but not typically the same ones on both maps!

Quantitative analysis of map similarities

- Single linear regression for expected and perceived happiness:
positive relationship ($p < 0.0005$, $r^2 = 0.532$)
- Multiple linear regression with the eight variables:
higher level of explanation ($r^2 = 0.774$)
- Only housing and health are significant contributors in this model (both $p < 0.0005$)
- Multiple regression with '**very happy**' instead of 'happy + very happy' as dependant variable:
only **income** is a significant contributor ($p < 0.0005$, $r^2 = 0.487$)

Conclusions

- A higher sum of scores for the 8 indicators predicts a higher score for perceived happiness
- Especially **owning a house and enjoying a good health** explain higher scores of perceived happiness
- Income** is a good predictor for the size of the category of **very happy** people
- A lot of variation between individuals and over time and space

Figure 1.3. Intensity of dimensions of societal progress and geographic space

	Cities	Rural areas
Efficiency/income	+	-
Environmental quality	-	+
Social dimensions: Public goods (e.g. health, education)	+	-
Social dimensions: Community-produced goods (e.g. trust, security)	-	+

Source: OECD, Regional Outlook, 2011

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Dinsdag 8 oktober 2013. Het laatste nieuws het eerst op NU.nl
Press Release European Union, October 8, 2013

Geplaatst op: 8 oktober 2013 18:33
Laatste update: 8 oktober 2013 18:30

Deel:

Groningen lijkt gelukkigste stad van Europa

Groningen moet wel een van de gelukkigste steden van Europa zijn. In een dinsdag verschenen tevredenheidsonderzoek over welzijn in Europese steden scoort de stad buitengewoon hoog op allerlei vlakken, van groenvoorzieningen tot vertrouwen in medeburgers.


Foto: ANP

Voor het onderzoek naar de levenskwaliteit in Europese steden, dat de Europese Commissie dinsdag uitbracht, zijn 41.000 stedelingen uit 79 steden in de EU-lidstaten en IJsland, Noorwegen, Zwitserland en Turkije ondervraagd.

Met name Groningen staat opvallend vaak bovenaan - hoger dan Amsterdam en Rotterdam, de andere Nederlandse steden uit het onderzoek. Groningen staat aan kop met tevredenheid over gezondheidszorg (95 procent), openbare ruimte (94 procent) en onderwijs (89 procent).



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Flash Eurobarometer 366

QUALITY OF LIFE IN EUROPEAN CITIES

