

2020

36th IARIW General Conference

Paper Prepared for the 36th IARIW General Conference, Oslo, Norway, August 24-28, 2020

The Relationships Between Economic Aspects of the Quality of Life and Subjective Well-being
in Poland

Anna Bienkunska

Tomasz Piasecki

The concept of quality of life adopted by Statistics Poland refers both to international recommendations and to the rich tradition of Polish research on these issues. This concept assumes a multidimensional measurement of this phenomenon. This measurement should include not only widely understood objective conditions in which people live, but also the subjective quality of life felt by individuals, most often called as subjective well-being.

The article focuses mainly on the presentation of the results of the analysis concerning the determinants of subjective well-being in Poland. To assess the influence of potential factors determining well-being, the models of logistic regression were used. Describing and analyzing subjective well-being, not only the overall life satisfaction was taken into account, but also emotional states and the sense of meaning of life. Most attention was paid to the analysis of the relationship between these aspects of subjective well-being and the objective economic standard of living of individuals. Different aspects and measures of the economic situation were taken into account, including the level of income as well as aggregate indicators which reflect the objective level of fulfillment of various types of needs (material and non-material) as well as the possibility of maintaining budgetary balance in the household. The influence of various forms of poverty on the subjective quality of life is discussed.

The presented analyses are based on the results of Social Cohesion Survey (sample survey). The paper focuses on discussing the results of the survey conducted by Statistics Poland in 2018. At the same time, however, in terms of the most important data and conclusions, a comparative analysis with the results of analyses based on previous editions of the Social Cohesion Survey (2011 and 2015) was made. This allows to evaluate both the dynamics of the level of selected aspects of economic well-being and subjective quality of life in Poland, as well as the relationships between these dimensions of widely understood quality of life in Poland.