



XXV Aniversario Estadística Pública IECA

The process of establishing Eurostat's Quality of life framework

**Agnieszka Litwinska
Unit F4 Quality of Life, Eurostat**

European context of measuring Quality of Life Indicators

Consistency with theory

**SSF
Report**

The Triangle for
Quality of
Indicators (QoL)

Europe 2020

GDP & Beyond

Political relevance

Measurability



Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress (2009)

- Coordinated by J. Stiglitz, A. Sen and J.P. Fitoussi
- Stressing the need of using other measures to complement GDP when measuring the progress of societies
- Grouped into three areas:
 - (1) **household perspective**
 - (2) **environmental**
 - (3) **quality of life** indicators
- Better distributional measures for complementing central tendencies



GDP and beyond: additional actions and indicators

Commission **roadmap for actions** in the short/medium
term

=

GDP and beyond
EC Communication

Aug 2009

Priorities set out in the European Roadmap 2009

1. Complementing GDP with environmental and social indicators:
 - A comprehensive environmental index;
 - **Quality of life and well-being indicators.**
2. **Near real time** information for decision-making:
 - More timely environmental indicators;
 - More timely social indicators. (precise actions for EU-SILC)

The ESS response



Expert Group on Quality of life indicators

- Participants: 10 MS (voluntary basis), OECD, Eurofound, scientific experts

- 8 meetings

Made proposals for

- dimensions, topics, indicators, variables
- data sources to be used, way of dissemination

- The Directors of social statistics agreed in 2013 on

a first set of QoL indicators on Eurostat's website

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gdp-and-beyond/quality-of-life/data/overview>

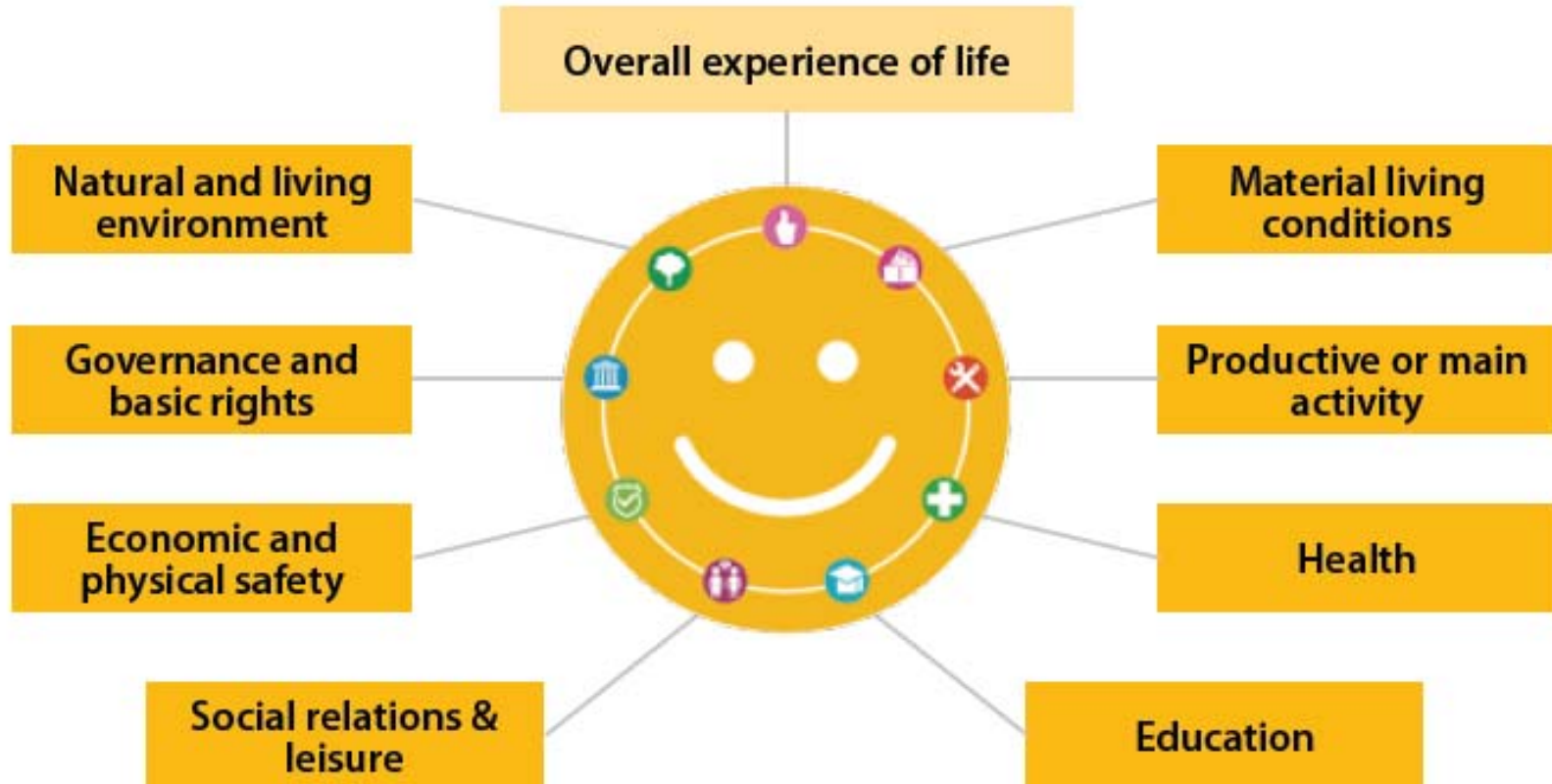
Expert Group on Quality of life indicators

Guiding principles

- Relevance of the indicator in relation to quality of life
- Data coverage
- Data availability
- Data availability at a non-aggregated level
- Possibility of showing information on the whole distribution
- Reducing the complexity (by building synthetic indicators)
- Overall consistency of the set



European
Commission



EU Quality of life data

- EU Statistics on Income & Living Conditions (EU-SILC) are the core instrument
- It is a micro data set covering most dimensions
- Complement the coverage of the dimensions with additional data sources (EHIS, LFS, administrative data)
- Objective + subjective data (collected for the first time in 2013)
- Distributional measures (geographical, vulnerable groups)

Main outputs of Eurostat's QoL work

- **Set of QoL** indicators on Eurostat's website (dedicated section)
- **Datasets on** subjective well-being containing average values (by country and for different groups) and distributional aspects (% with high, medium and low well-being)
- "**Quality of life. *Facts and views***" publication (One article per QoL dimension)
- Same content in **Statistics explained wiki pages** available on Eurostat's website & **Interactive infographic tool**

Main value added: joint analysis of objective and subjective data for each dimension



European Commission

Main outputs of Eurostat's QoL work

European Commission > Eurostat > GDP and beyond > Quality of life > Data > Material living conditions

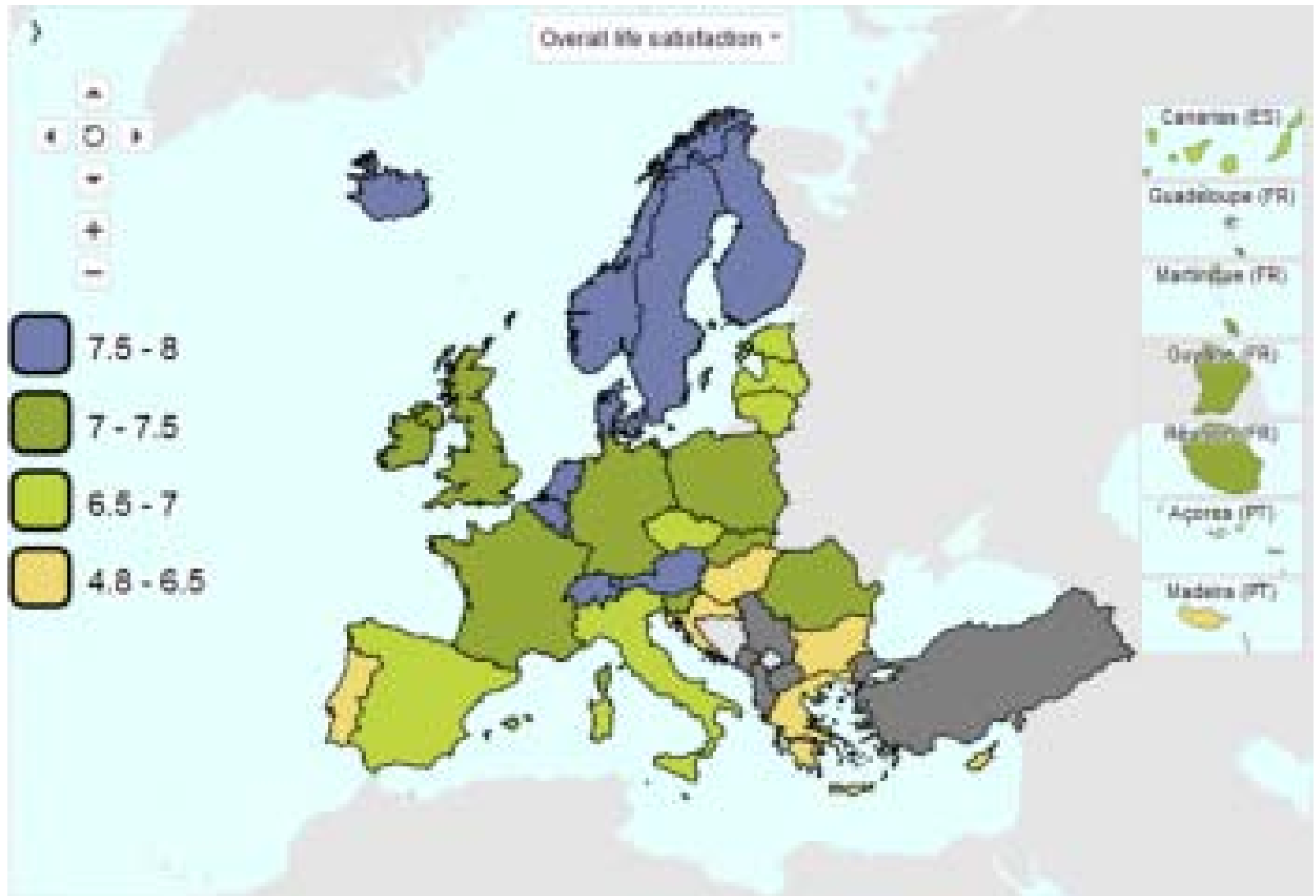
- Publications
- Links
- Quality of life
 - Context
 - Data
 - Overview
 - MATERIAL LIVING CONDITIONS**
 - Productive or main activity
 - Health
 - Education
 - Leisure and social interactions
 - Economic and physical safety
 - Governance and basic rights
 - Natural and living environment
 - Overall experience of life
 - Classes of indicators
 - Legislation
 - Publications
 - More information
- Household perspective in income, consumption and wealth
 - Context
 - Data
 - Legislation
 - Publications

Topic / subtopic		Indicator
Income		Mean and median income
		At-risk-of-poverty rate
		At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a fixed moment in time (2008)
		S80/S20 income quintile share ratio
		Average satisfaction with financial situation of the household Percentage of the population rating their satisfaction of their financial situation as high, medium or low
Consumption	Constrained consumption	Basic expenses to total household budget ratio (under development from HBS)
	Consumption (including non-market consumption and government provided services)	Actual individual consumption per capita in PPS
Material deprivation		Severely materially deprived people
		(In)ability to make ends meet
		Share of total population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames of floor

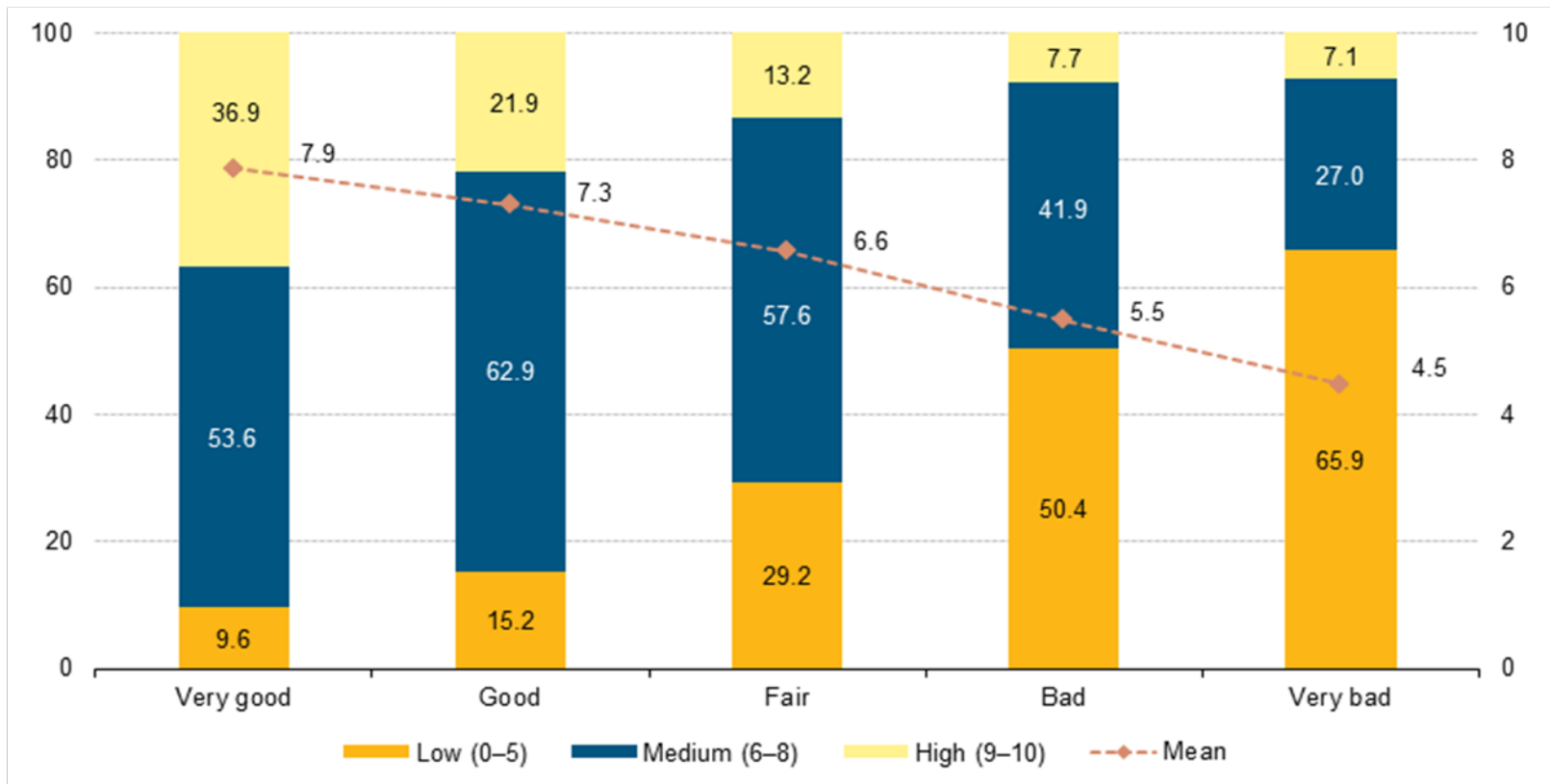




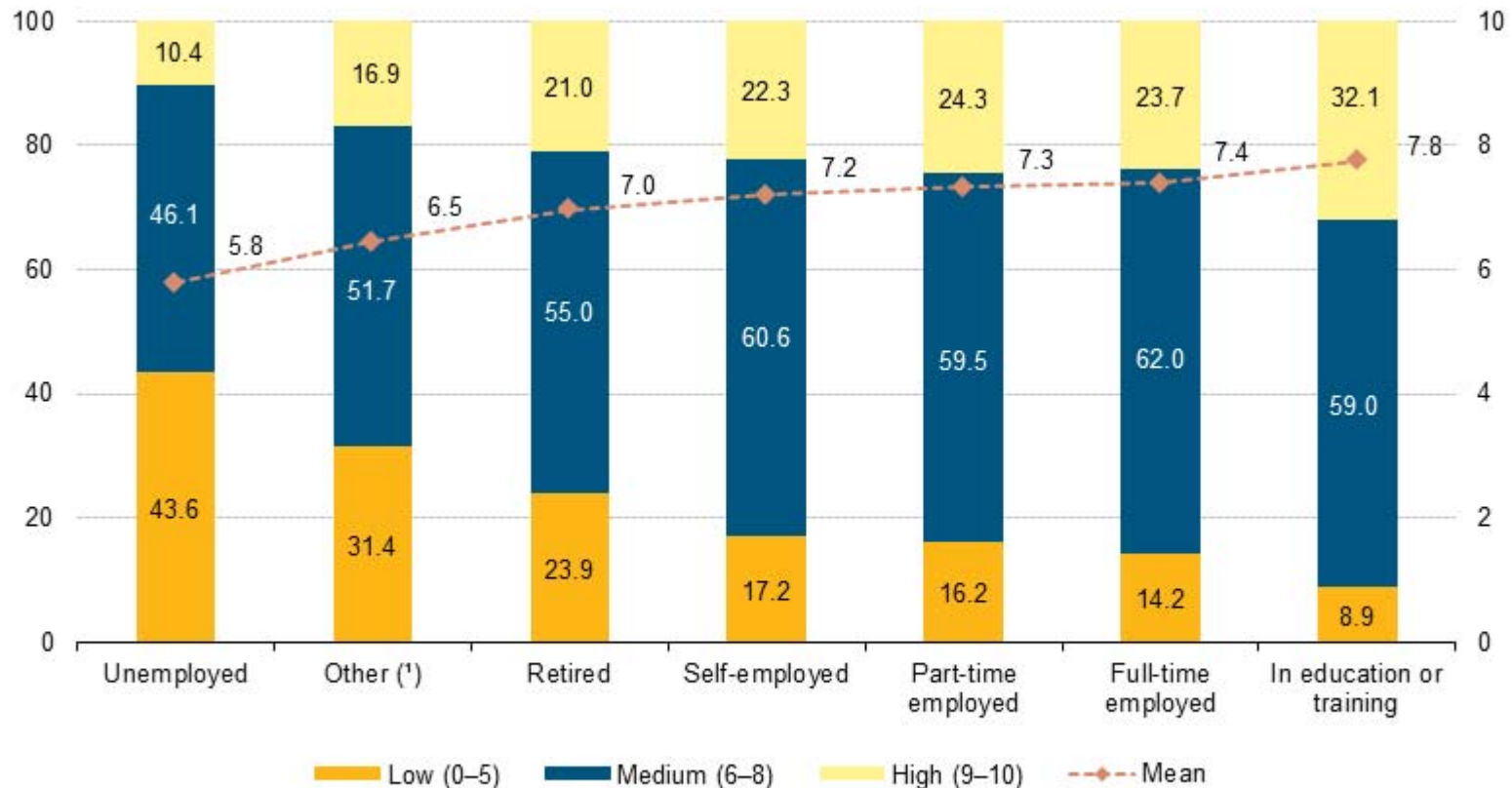
European
Commission



What matters most for our quality of life?

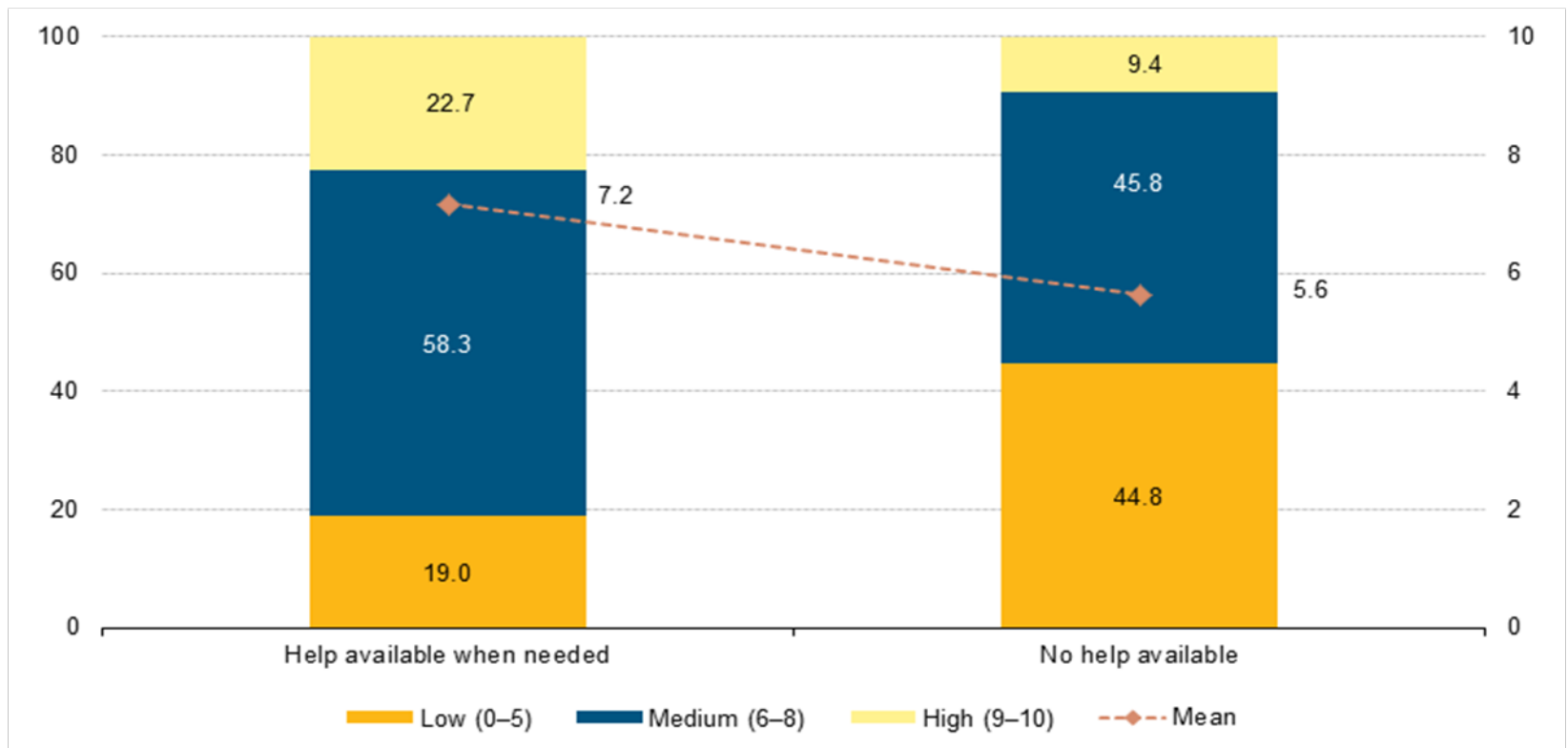


What matters most for our quality of life?

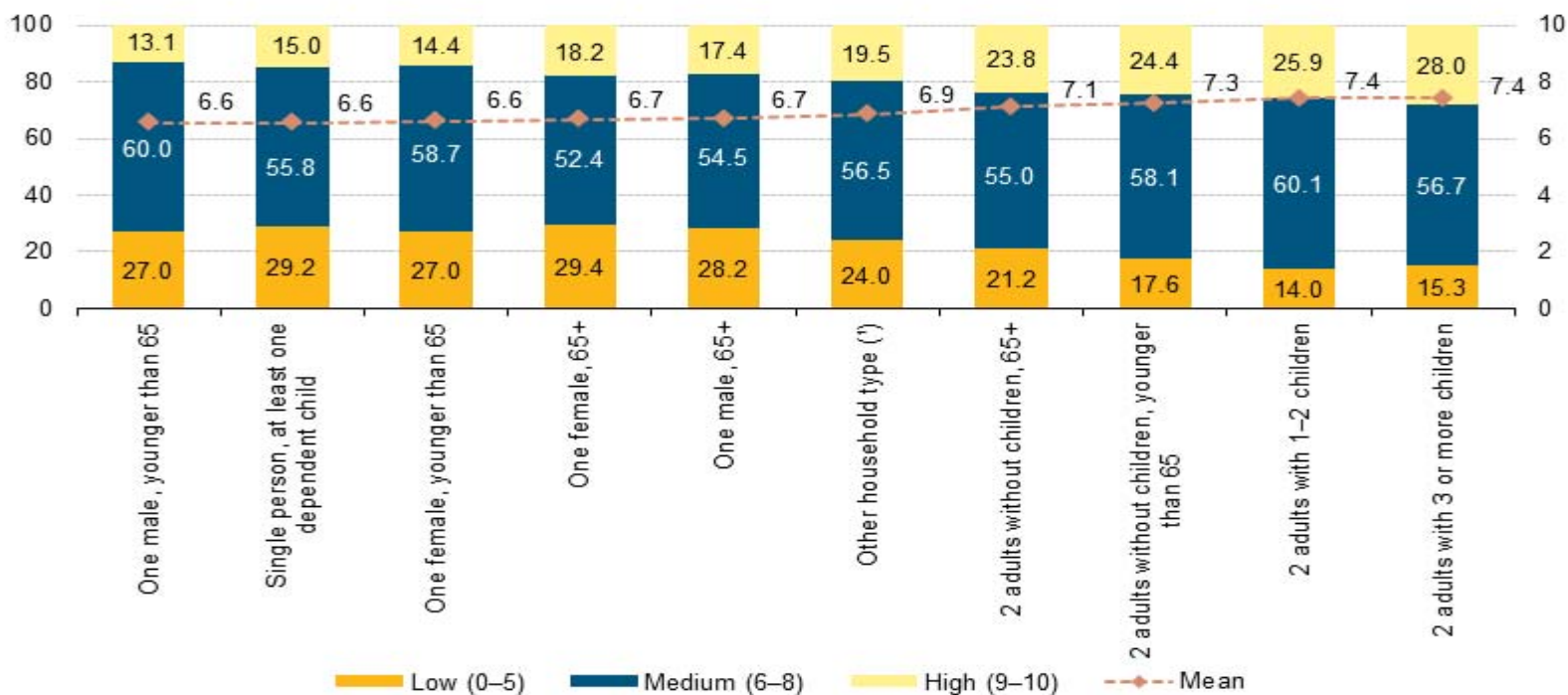


(*) 'Other' includes people permanently disabled/unfit to work, fulfilling domestic tasks, in compulsory military community or service.

What matters most for one's quality of life?



What matters most for one's quality of life?



(*) 'Other household types' refers to other households with and without dependent children.



European
Commission

Interactive infographic

Home - Eurostat x EUROSTAT - Quality of life x

ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/infographs/qol/index_en.html

QUALITY OF LIFE

eurostat

QUALITY OF LIFE

Find out more about the well-being of Europeans

Choose a country

Data

Future steps

- Regular production by the ESS (**Overall life satisfaction** to be included in the core of EU-SILC)
- Continuous quality improvements
- In-depth analysis of the collected data (e.g. : multi-causality)
- Micro data available for researchers; studies will follow



European
Commission



Thank you for your attention!