

An Initiative to Develop Capability-Adjusted Life Years (CALYs) in Sweden: Frequency words - Capability statements version A

SND-ID: 2021-39-1. **Version:** 2. **DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5878/gbyb-1s51>

Download data

data_frequency_A.csv (126.5 KB)

Associated documentation

questions.txt (12.07 KB)

readme.txt (5.26 KB)

Download all files

2021-39-1-2.zip (~143.83 KB)

Citation

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Description

This data is part of a project that has developed from the idea of Capability-Adjusted Life Years (CALYs) for the Swedish context. CALYs aim to be a questionnaire-based measure for quality of life that is based on the capability approach and useful for Swedish municipalities to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of interventions.

Economic evaluations in Swedish municipalities mainly rely on a basic cost-savings approach, which entails a risk that interventions with short-term savings are favored compared to interventions that result in long term welfare gains. CALYs would offer an opportunity to systematically measure welfare consequences of different interventions and for example allow a comparison between improved schooling vs drug rehabilitation.

The capability approach was suggested by Amartya Sen (Swedish Central Bank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, 1998), and it measures quality of life in terms of capabilities; i.e. what individuals can do or be, as opposed to measuring quality of life in terms of wealth or happiness.

To select relevant capabilities we initiated a Delphi process with stakeholders from the Swedish civil society. The starting point were ten capabilities from a Swedish governmental investigation in 2015

(2015:56), of which the Delphi selected the following six: Finance & housing, social relations, health, occupation, security and civil & political rights.

We used the present dataset to test the impact of phrasing on the CALY-instrument. We tested three different ways to describe the six capabilities to assess their distribution in the Swedish population. The three different versions differed in the extent of how the six capabilities were described and each version was distributed to an independent population sample. For example health:

- A: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that allows me to work or to do what I want"
- B: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that almost always (at least 95% of days) allows me to work or to do what I want"
- C: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that mostly (at least 90% of days) allows me to work or to do what I want"

The survey also contained questions on inequality aversion for the categories of health, salary, and education.

We then chose the final phrasing of the capability statements based on the results and on normative considerations such as those behind laws or policies. For example, if there was little difference between the answer distributions of the three versions, we preferred the A version for simplicity.

The study was performed in June 2020. In an internet-based survey, we quota-sampled 500 Swedish residents for each version from a commercial web-panel, after population proportions of age, region of residence, education, gender.

The survey started with the informed consent statement, followed by questions on participants' current baseline capability levels in the ten capability dimensions (Low, Medium, and Complete). Next followed questions about capability (not included in this data) and inequality aversion. The survey ended with a number of background questions on socio-economic and demographic conditions.

Sampling large numbers of participants using a commercial web panel is administratively more feasible and quicker than other sampling methods, such as for example direct sampling from the general population. Also, the response rate may be higher and data handling easier. On the other hand, it is less transparent how recruitment into the study was performed and web panel participants may not be representative of the population. Those limitations should be kept in mind when analyzing the data and interpreting the results.

The document `data_frequency_A.csv` contains the data on self-reported background variables, inequality aversion, and capability levels for phrasing version A of the survey.

We used three different versions of the survey to test the impact of phrasing on the distribution of the answers in the Swedish population. The versions differed in the extent of how the six capabilities were described. Each version was distributed to an independent population sample.

Version A contains statements where capability is described to be complete.

Version B contains statements where capability is described to be less extensive.

Version C contains statements where capability is described to be even less extensive.

For example for health:

- A: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that allows me to work or to do what I want"
- B: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that almost always (at least 95% of days) allows me to work or to do what I want"
- C: "I have good general health (physical and mental) that mostly (at least 90% of days) allows me to work or to do what I want"

All capability statements had three answer options (Agree completely, agree partially, not at all)

Data were collected anonymously with a PHP-based web application for surveys (limesurvey version 4.2.2, <https://www.limesurvey.org>) hosted on a Umeå university server.

Data contains personal data

No

Language

[English](#)

Unit of analysis

[Individual](#)

Population

Swedish quota-stratified web panel sample of participants provided by Cint. Cint combines different web panels. Age 18-99, living in Sweden.

Time Method

[Cross-section](#)

Sampling procedure

[Probability: Stratified: Proportional](#)

Web panel sample from Cint. Quota-stratified to represent Swedish population after gender, education, region, and age.

Time period(s) investigated

2020-01-01 - 2020-07-06

Variables

26

Number of individuals/objects

497

Response rate/participation rate

32.03% / According to the webpanel company. Corresponds to 616 registered answers. This dataset corresponds to 497 answers with valid age and consent to participate.

Data format / data structure

[Numeric](#)

[Text](#)

Data collection 1

- Mode of collection: Self-administered questionnaire: web based
- Time period(s) for data collection: 2020-06-22 – 2020-07-06
- Source of the data: Population group

Geographic spread

Geographic location: [Sweden](#)

Geographic description: Lowest geographical unit is national areas according to NUTS-2.

Lowest geographic unit

National area (NUTS2)

Highest geographic unit

Country

Responsible department/unit

Department of Epidemiology and Global Health

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Ethics Review

Swedish Ethical Review Authority - Ref. 2019-02848

Research area

[Health care service and management, health policy and services and health economy](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Public health, global health, social medicine and epidemiology](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Economics](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Social sciences interdisciplinary](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Philosophy](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[General health and well-being](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

[Social conditions and indicators](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

Keywords

[Economics](#), [Health](#), [Welfare economics](#), [Public health](#), [Social welfare philosophy](#), [Extra-welfarism](#), [Capability approach](#), [Health economics](#)

Publications

An Initiative to Develop Capability-Adjusted Life Years in Sweden (CALY-SWE): Selecting Capabilities with a Delphi Panel and Developing the Questionnaire

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0263231>

If you have published anything based on these data, [please notify us](#) with a reference to your publication(s). If you are responsible for the catalogue entry, you can update the metadata/data description in DORIS.

Accessibility level

Access to data through SND
Data are freely accessible

Use of data

[Things to consider when using data shared through SND](#)

Copyright

The license for the research data was changed to CC BY 4.0

License

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Versions

Version 2. 2022-01-29

[Version 1](#). 2022-01-25

Contact for questions about the data

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Related research data in SND's catalogue

[Capability ranking among health care related researchers and students at 5 Swedish universities](#)

[An Initiative to Develop Capability-Adjusted Life Years \(CALYs\) in Sweden: Frequency words - Capability statements version B](#)

[An Initiative to Develop Capability-Adjusted Life Years \(CALYs\) in Sweden: Frequency words - Capability statements version C](#)

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