The 'Brexit' effect on the life satisfaction of Poles in the UK

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26th International Conference of Europeanists, Madrid 2019

Friday, 21st June 2019

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  - ❏ How is 'Brexit' affecting the life satisfaction and future outlook of Polish EU migrants in the United Kingdom?
- ❏ Background:
  - ❏ Intra-EU migration to the UK
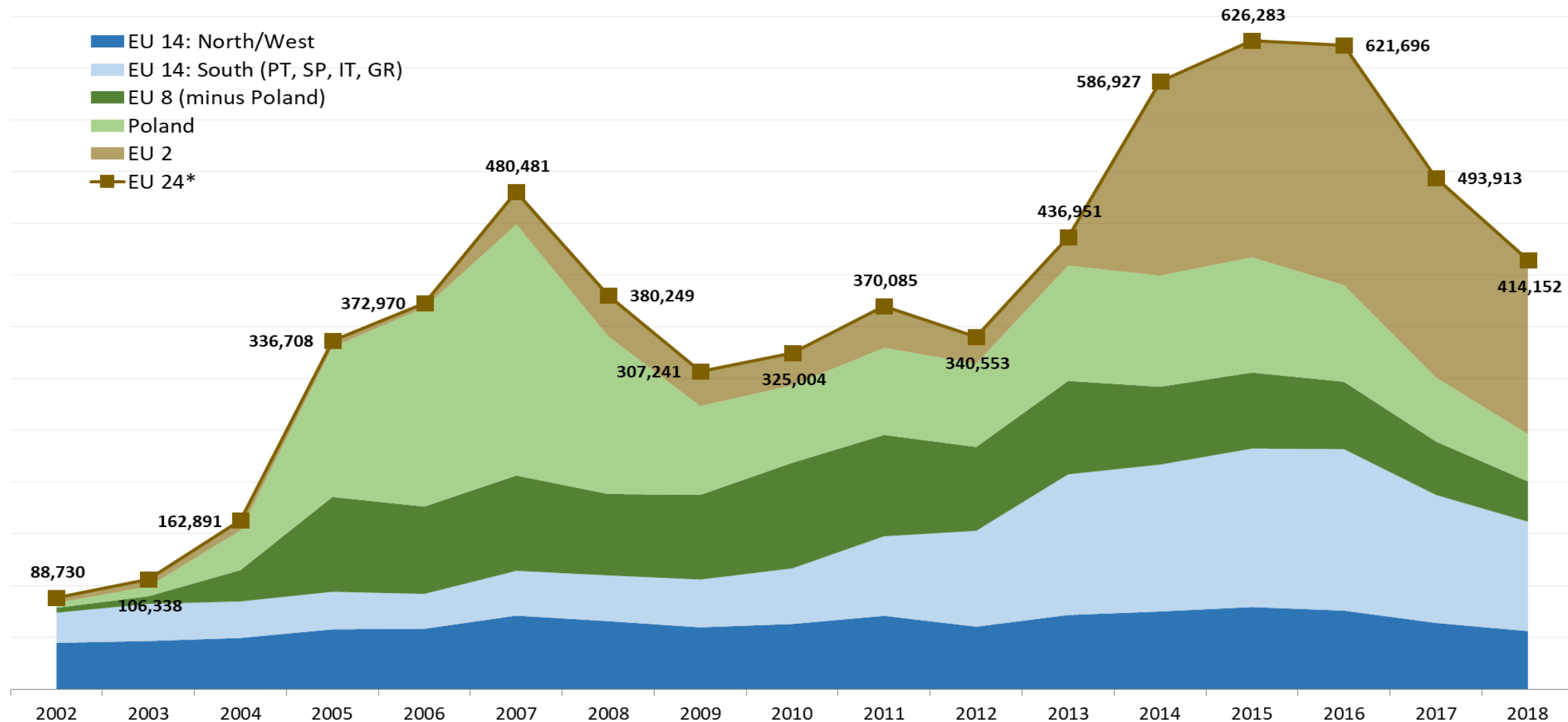 - ❏ Brexit and EU migrants
  - ❏ Migration and life satisfaction
- ❏ Data and methods
  - ❏ Online survey data; descriptive statistics;
- ❏ Preliminary results
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Background (1): Intra-EU migration to UK

Legend:
- EU 14: North/West
- EU 14: South (PT, SP, IT, GR)
- EU 8 (minus Poland)
- Poland
- EU 2
- EU 24*

Data point labels: 88,730; 106,338; 162,891; 336,708; 372,970; 480,481; 380,249; 307,241; 325,004; 370,085; 340,553; 436,951; 586,927; 626,283; 621,696; 493,913; 414,152

Years: 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
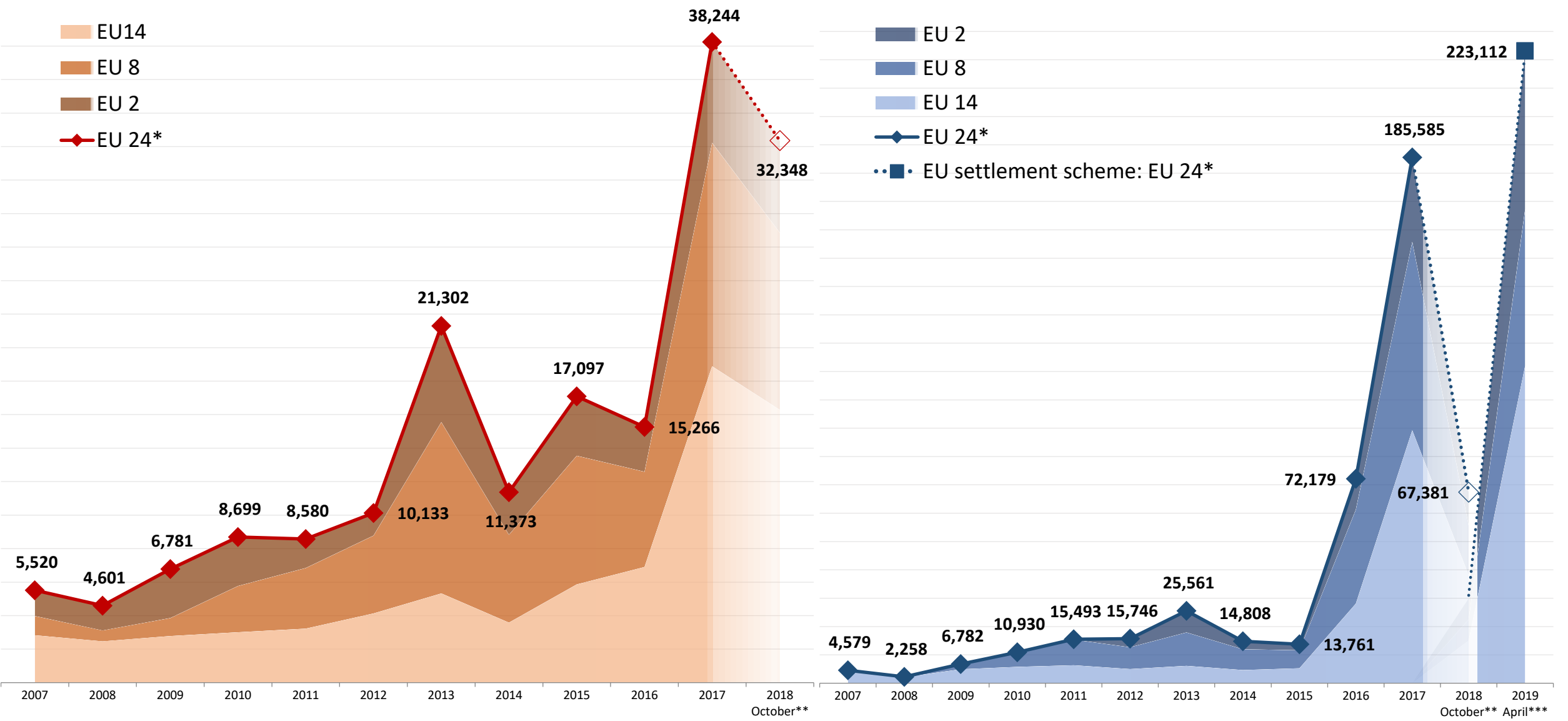
* Does not include Cyprus, Malta and Croatia
Source: Department for Work and Pensions data

Background (2.1): Brexit and migration

The effect of Brexit on EU (and Polish) migrants ?

- Changing migration strategies – 'deliberately indeterminate' to 'undeliberately determinate' (McGhee, Moreh, and Vlachantoni, 2017)

- A 'return' of citizenship? (Moreh, McGhee, and Vlachantoni, 2018

- Narratives of 'earned citizenship' and ethical membership (McGhee, Moreh, and Vlachantoni, 2018)

Background (2.2): Brexit and migration

* Does not include Cyprus, Malta and Croatia ** Available 2018 data covers three quarters.
Source: Moreh (2019)

Background (3.1): Life satisfaction and happiness

- 'Happiness', aka 'life-satisfaction', aka 'subjective well-being'

- "Overall happiness is the degree to which an individual judges the overall quality of his/her own life-as-a-whole favourably" (Veenhoven 1984: 22-25)

- Validated 'measures of happiness' → the *World Database of Happiness* (Brule and Veenhoven 2017; Veenhoven 2015)
    - Overall: Satisfaction w Life as a Whole:

    O-SLW-c-sq-n-11-a: Self-report on single question:

    "All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?":
    0 (dissatisfied) – 10 (satisfied), unlabelled numbers in-between.

Background (3.2): Life satisfaction and happiness

Variations on self-report single question measure:

- "Taking all things together, would you say you are:"
    1 – very happy 2 – quite happy 3 – not very happy 4 – not at all happy
- "All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?"
    1 (dissatisfied)—10 (satisfied), unlabelled numbers in-between.
    EVS 2017: Q10; Eurobarometer: D70;
- "All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole nowadays?"
    0 (extremely dissatisfied) — 10 (extremely satisfied), unlabelled numbers in-between.
    ESS: B27
- "Taking all things together, how happy would you say you are?"
    0 (extremely unhappy) — 10 (extremely happy), unlabelled numbers in-between.
    ESS: C1

Evaluations strongly correlated (~0.70)

Background (3.3): Life satisfaction and happiness

	Nation	Satisfaction with life (scale 0 - 10)
1	Costa Rica	8.5
2	Denmark	8.4
3	Mexico	8.3
4	Iceland	8.1
5	Canada	8.0
6	Switzerland	8.0
7	Norway	8.0
8	Finland	7.9
9	Colombia	7.9
10	Venezuela	7.8
30	United Kingdom	7.1
47	Poland	6.8

Background (3.4): Life satisfaction and happiness

Common determinants of 'happiness' (Bartram 2012):

- o gender (women have greater values, but only in bivariate analyses)
- o age (U-shaped)
- o income (it's complicated)
- o health
- o employment (i.e., avoidance of unemployment),
- o stable intimate partnerships (but individual variations, often coupled with activities)
- o religiosity (as sociability)
- o sociability
- o social and national aggregate contextual factors (governance, culture, economy

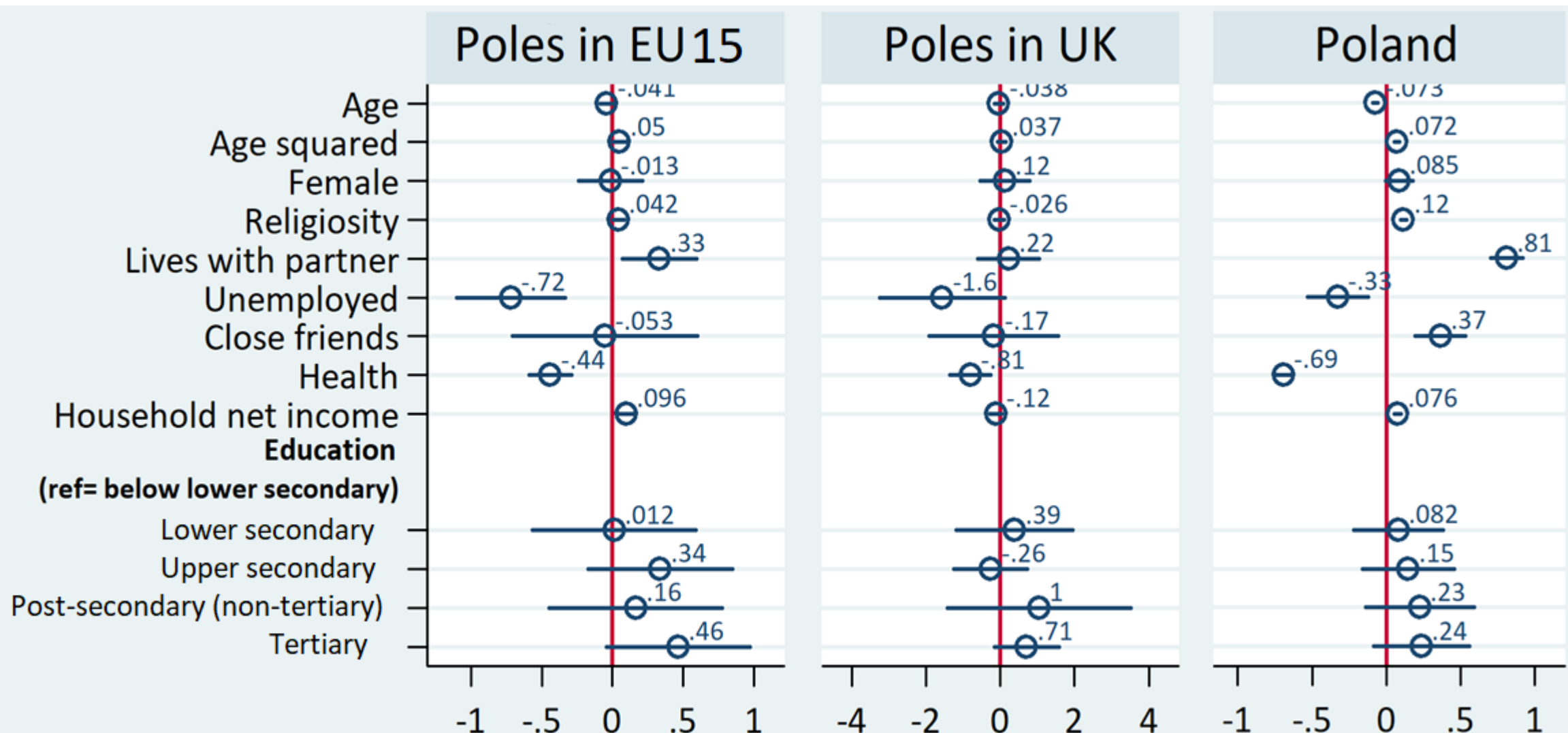# Background (3.5): Intra-EU migration and life satisfaction

o "Happiness should be at the core of a framework evaluating the overall consequences of migration for migrants" (Hendriks & Bartram 2019: 295)

o Because:
   o multiple frames of reference; policy potential; conceptual development

o But:
   o data availability issues for longitudinal pre/post-migration analysis
   o limited data for cross-sectional comparative analyses
   o conceptual issues of selection and reverse causation

o *East* to *West* migration (Bartram 2013)

o *North* to *South* migration / Wealthier to Poorer (Bartram 2015)

Background (3.6): Intra-EU migration and Life satisfaction

ESS 4—8	Poland (excl. foreign-born)	UK (excl. foreign-born)	Polish migrants in EU countries	Polish migrants in UK
N	8,470	9,921	900	110
Life satisfaction	7.30 (SD=2.01; N=8,403)	7.48 (SD=1.93; N=9,909)	7.54 (SD=1.67; N=899)	7.62 (SD=1.74; N=109)

Source: ESS Waves 4-8 (2008-2016) pooled data. Average 'Live satisfaction' scores as measured with question C1.

Background (3.7): Intra-EU migration and Life satisfaction

Source: ESS Waves 4-8 (2008-2016) pooled data. OLS on 'Life satisfaction' as measured with question C1.

Data and Methods (1)

- Online survey conducted in January—March 2018
- Frame: Polish nationals aged over 16, living in the UK, or who had lived in the UK in the previous two years
- Collection method: targeted Facebook groups; two Polish-language UK-based newspapers' social media and mailing list (100.000 users)
- Questionnaire:
  - Professionally translated into Polish
  - 167 items (main questionnaire)
  - 6 thematic blocs (migration history and plans; Brexit and uncertainty; Citizenship and Transnationalism; Social attitudes on diversity and inequality; the EU and Social Trust; Life satisfaction and future outlook) + personal and socio-demographic blocs
- Polish sample (answering the 'life satisfaction' item): N=637

Data and Methods (2): Dependent variables

Life satisfaction:

• "All things considered, **how satisfied** are you with **your life as a whole** these days?"

   1 ("Extremely dissatisfied") – 10 ("Extremely satisfied')

Data and Methods (3): Independent variables

Socio-demographic and migration:

- Gender
- Age (groups)
- Education
- Employment status (multinomial)
- Household total income (ESS 10 levels)
- Long-term intimate relationship
- Relatives in the UK
- Children (under 18, in the UK)
- English language competence
- Time in UK (groups)

Brexit:

- "How has the Brexit vote affected your life so far?"
- "Looking ahead, how do you think Brexit will affect your life in the future?"
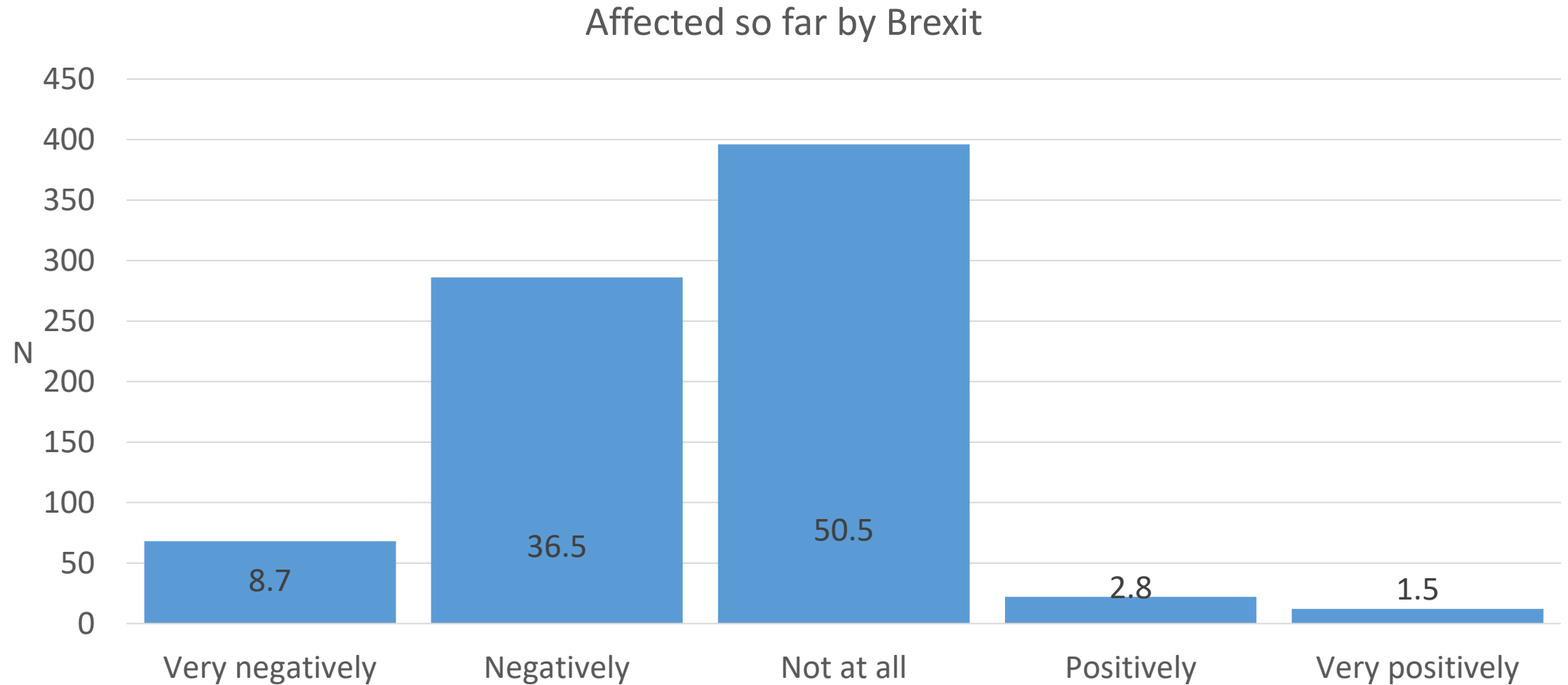
1 Very negatively
2 Negatively
3 Not at all
4 Positively
5 Very positively

Data overview (1): Dependent variables

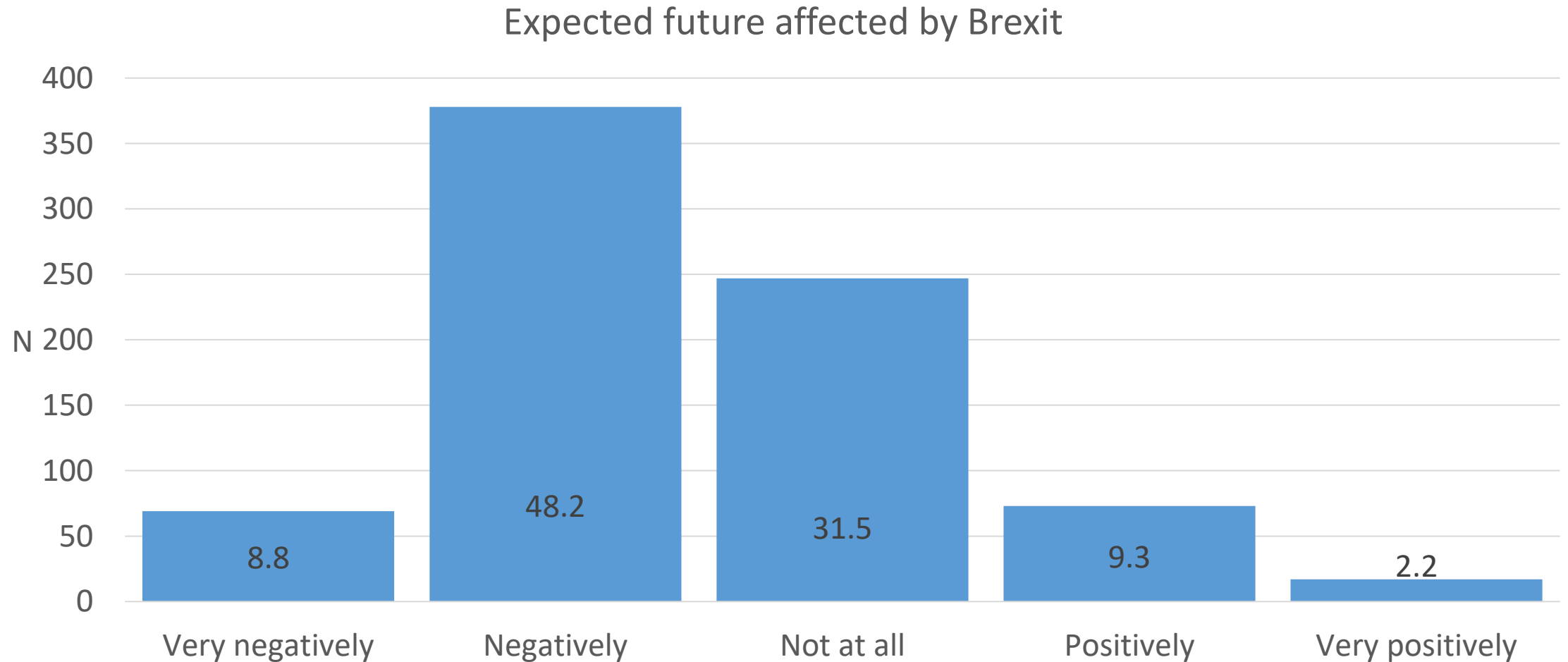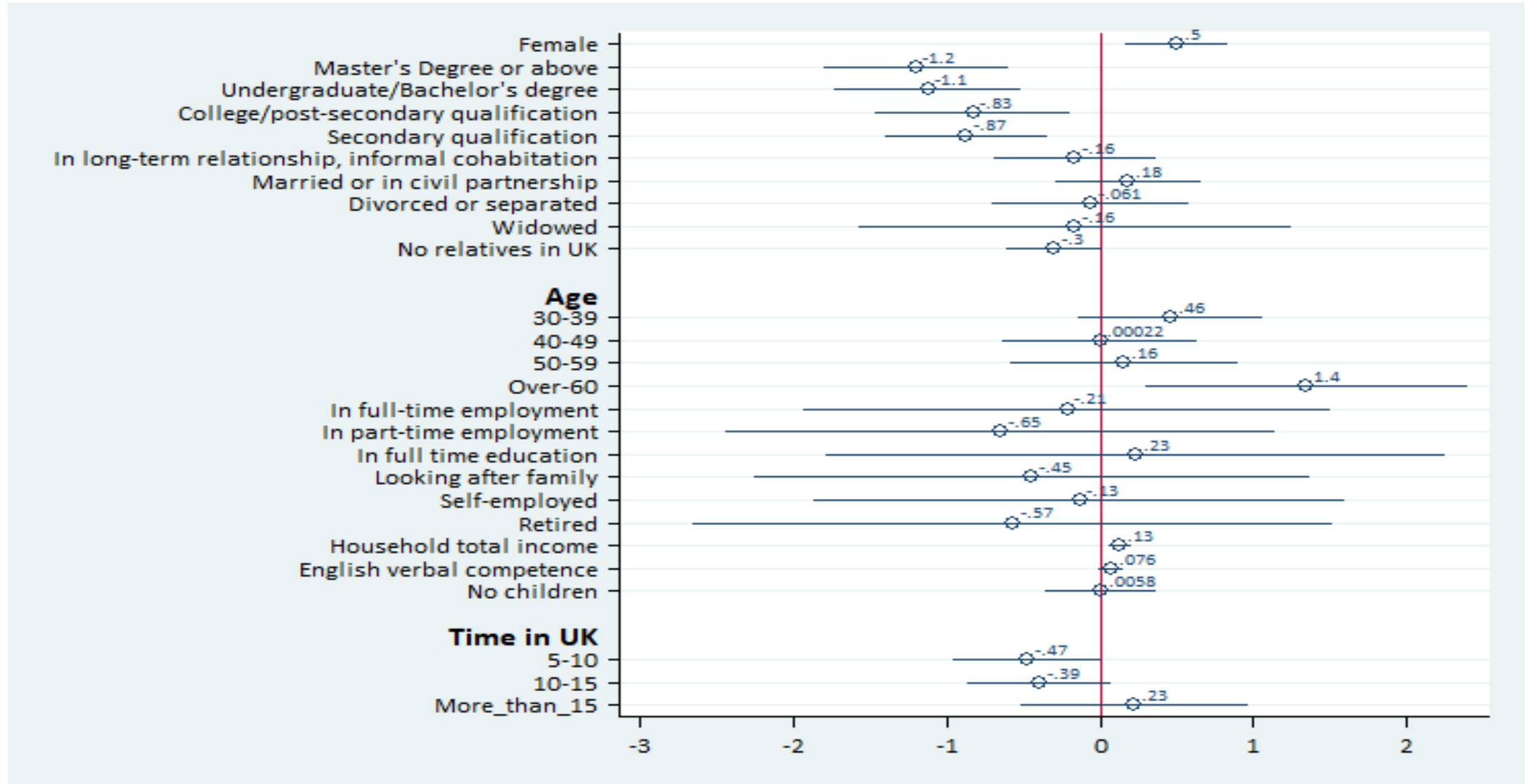Life satisfaction

Data overview (2.1): Brexit

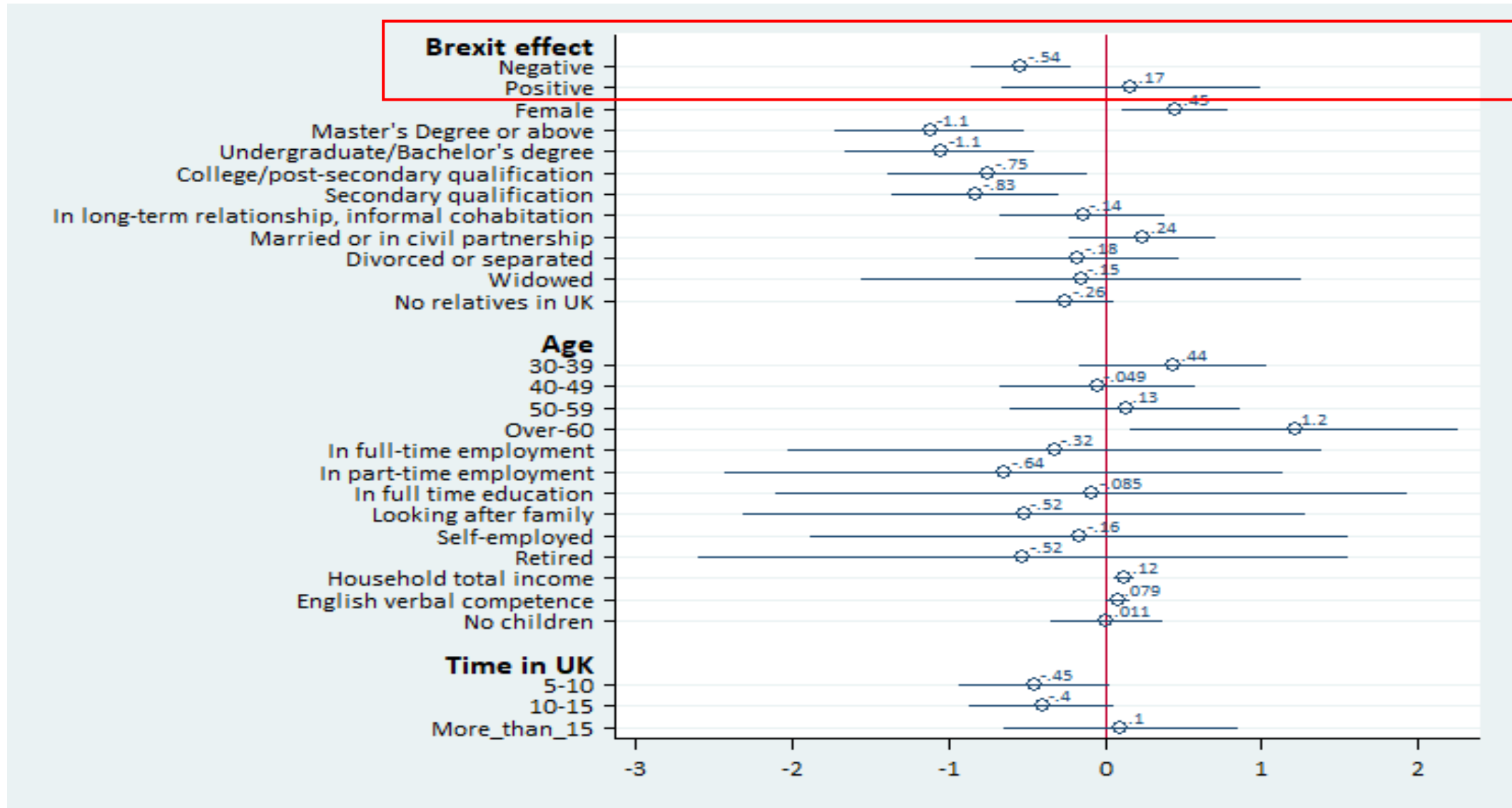Affected so far by Brexit

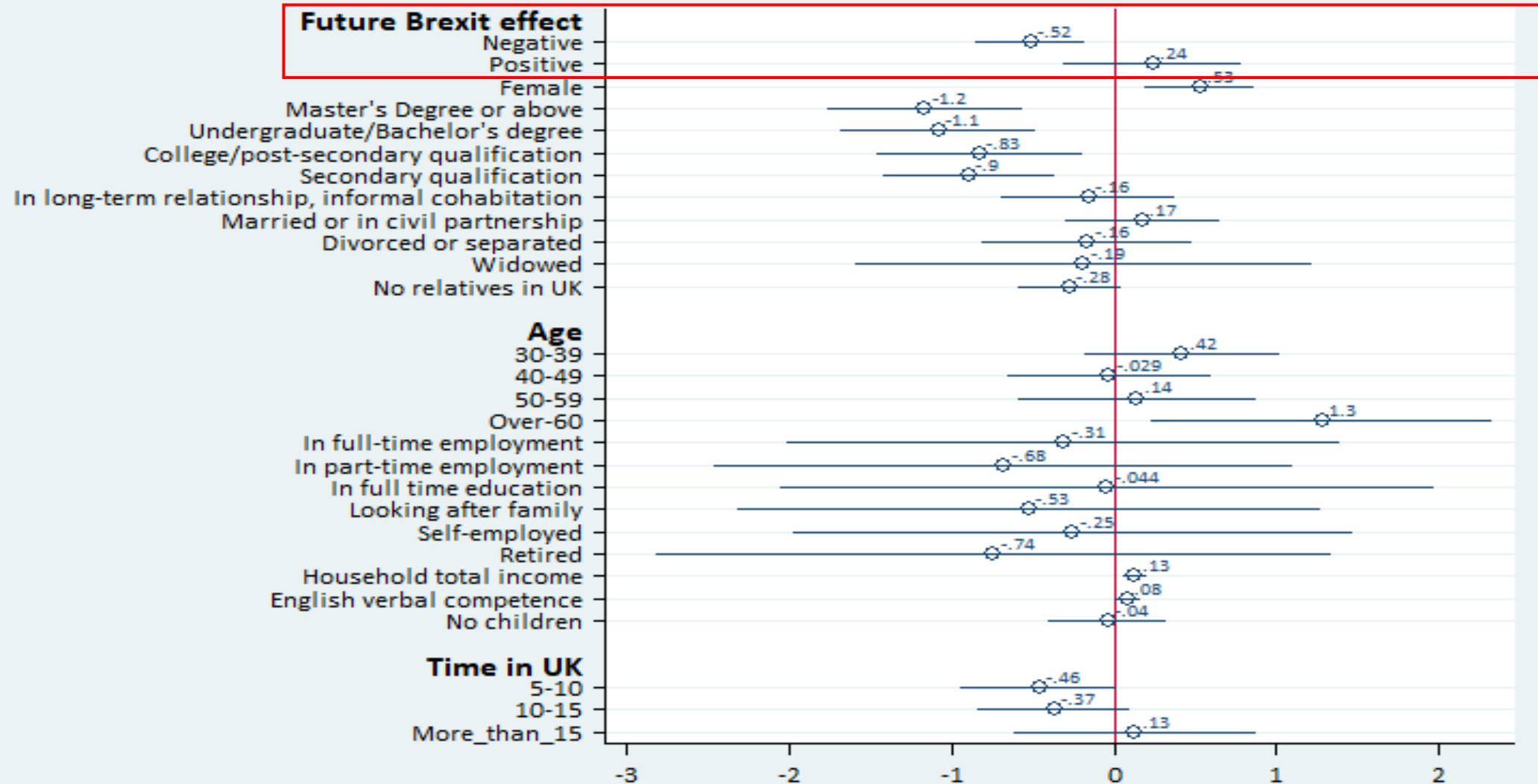# Data overview (2.2): Brexit

Expected future affected by Brexit

Preliminary results (1): Socio-demographic

Results (2): Brexit effect

Results (3):Brexit future

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Appendices

- **Income show-cards: EuinUK2018 and ESS**

	Przybliżone tygodniowe zarobki	Przybliżone miesięczne zarobki	Przybliżone roczne zarobki	
J	< £220	< £956	< £11,475	J
R	£220 – £295	£956 – £1,283	£11,475 – £15,392	R
C	£295 – £366	£1,283 – £1,591	£15,392 – £19,088	C
M	£366 – £442	£1,591 – £1,922	£19,088 – £23,060	M
F	£442 – £527	£1,922 – £2,289	£23,060 – £27,473	F
S	£527 – £630	£2,289 – £2,735	£27,473 – £32,824	S
K	£630 – £751	£2,735 – £3,264	£32,824 – £39,169	K
P	£751 – £917	£3,264 – £3,986	£39,169 – £47,830	P
D	£917 – £1,214	£3,986 – £5,273	£47,830 – £63,277	D
H	£1,214 +	£5,273 +	£63,277 +	H

CARD 67

YOUR <u>HOUSEHOLD</u> INCOME

	Approximate WEEKLY	Approximate MONTHLY	Approximate ANNUAL	
J	Less than £220	Less than £956	Less than £11,475	J
R	£220 to under £295	£956 to under £1,283	£11,475 to under £15,392	R
C	£295 to under £366	£1,283 to under £1,591	£15,392 to under £19,088	C
M	£366 to under £442	£1,591 to under £1,922	£19,088 to under £23,060	M
F	£442 to under £527	£1,922 to under £2,289	£23,060 to under £27,473	F
S	£527 to under £630	£2,289 to under £2,735	£27,473 to under £32,824	S
K	£630 to under £751	£2,735 to under £3,264	£32,824 to under £39,169	K
P	£751 to under £917	£3,264 to under £3,986	£39,169 to under £47,830	P
D	£917 to under £1,214	£3,986 to under £5,273	£47,830 to under £63,277	D
H	£1,214 or more	£5,273 or more	£63,277 or more	H

Appendices

- **1. ESS models**

Life satisfaction among Polish population

happy	Coef.	St.Err.	t-value	p-value	[95% Conf	Interval]	Sig
agea	-0.073	0.008	-9.61	0.000	-0.088	-0.058	***
age_sq	0.072	0.008	9.34	0.000	0.057	0.087	***
0.male	0.085	0.047	1.82	0.069	-0.007	0.177	
1b.male	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
rlgdgr	0.115	0.009	12.21	0.000	0.097	0.134	***
0b.lives	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.lives	0.811	0.054	14.91	0.000	0.705	0.918	***
0b.unemployed	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.unemployed	-0.326	0.103	-3.17	0.002	-0.528	-0.124	**
0b.friends	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.friends	0.365	0.086	4.23	0.000	0.196	0.534	***
health	-0.692	0.030	-22.71	0.000	-0.751	-0.632	***
hinctnta	0.076	0.010	7.82	0.000	0.057	0.095	***
1b.educ	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
2.educ	0.082	0.153	0.54	0.592	-0.218	0.383	
3.educ	0.149	0.156	0.95	0.342	-0.158	0.455	
4.educ	0.227	0.186	1.22	0.222	-0.137	0.592	
5.educ	0.237	0.164	1.44	0.149	-0.085	0.559	
Constant	8.376	0.230	36.43	0.000	7.925	8.826	***

Mean dependent var	7.289	SD dependent var		2.004
R-squared	0.203	Number of obs		6277.000
F-test	123.077	Prob > F		0.000
Akaike crit. (AIC)	25138.657	Bayesian crit. (BIC)		25233.082

*** p<0.001, ** p<0.01, * p<0.05

Life satisfaction among Polish migrants in EU15

happy	Coef.	St.Err.	t-value	p-value	[95% Conf	Interval]	Sig
agea	-0.041	0.023	-1.81	0.071	-0.085	0.003	
age_sq	0.050	0.023	2.13	0.033	0.004	0.096	*
0.male	-0.013	0.116	-0.12	0.907	-0.241	0.214	
1b.male	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
rlgdgr	0.042	0.021	2.00	0.046	0.001	0.084	*
0b.lives	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.lives	0.331	0.134	2.47	0.014	0.068	0.593	*
0b.unemployed	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.unemployed	-0.716	0.194	-3.69	0.000	-1.097	-0.335	***
0b.friends	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.friends	-0.053	0.332	-0.16	0.872	-0.705	0.598	
health	-0.440	0.075	-5.86	0.000	-0.587	-0.292	***
hinctnta	0.096	0.025	3.80	0.000	0.047	0.146	***
1b.educ	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
2.educ	0.012	0.293	0.04	0.968	-0.563	0.587	
3.educ	0.338	0.259	1.30	0.193	-0.171	0.847	
4.educ	0.164	0.310	0.53	0.597	-0.445	0.773	
5.educ	0.464	0.258	1.80	0.072	-0.042	0.970	
Constant	8.060	0.619	13.03	0.000	6.845	9.275	***

Mean dependent var		7.557	SD dependent var			1.676	
R-squared		0.138	Number of obs			733.000	
F-test		8.852	Prob > F			0.000	
Akaike crit. (AIC)		2738.600	Bayesian crit. (BIC)			2802.960	

*** p<0.001, ** p<0.01, * p<0.05

Life satisfaction among Polish migrants in UK

happy	Coef.	St.Err.	t-value	p-value	[95% Conf	Interval]	Sig
agea	-0.038	0.059	-0.64	0.525	-0.156	0.080	
age_sq	0.037	0.059	0.63	0.533	-0.081	0.155	
0.male	0.125	0.329	0.38	0.706	-0.532	0.781	
1b.male	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
rlgdgr	-0.026	0.063	-0.41	0.680	-0.152	0.100	
0b.lives	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.lives	0.220	0.414	0.53	0.597	-0.605	1.045	
0b.unemployed	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.unemployed	-1.563	0.847	-1.85	0.069	-3.252	0.126	
0b.friends	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
1.friends	-0.171	0.872	-0.20	0.845	-1.910	1.567	
health	-0.806	0.272	-2.96	0.004	-1.348	-0.263	**
hinctnta	-0.117	0.082	-1.42	0.160	-0.281	0.047	
1b.educ	0.000	.	.	.	.	.	
2.educ	0.388	0.786	0.49	0.623	-1.179	1.956	
3.educ	-0.257	0.496	-0.52	0.606	-1.247	0.733	
4.educ	1.036	1.237	0.84	0.405	-1.432	3.504	
5.educ	0.712	0.437	1.63	0.108	-0.161	1.584	
Constant	10.481	1.373	7.64	0.000	7.743	13.219	***

Mean dependent var		7.843	SD dependent var			1.604
R-squared		0.257	Number of obs			83.000
F-test		1.841	Prob > F			0.054
Akaike crit. (AIC)		302.433	Bayesian crit. (BIC)			336.297

*** p<0.001, ** p<0.01, * p<0.05