

# How Environmental Quality Affects Our Happiness

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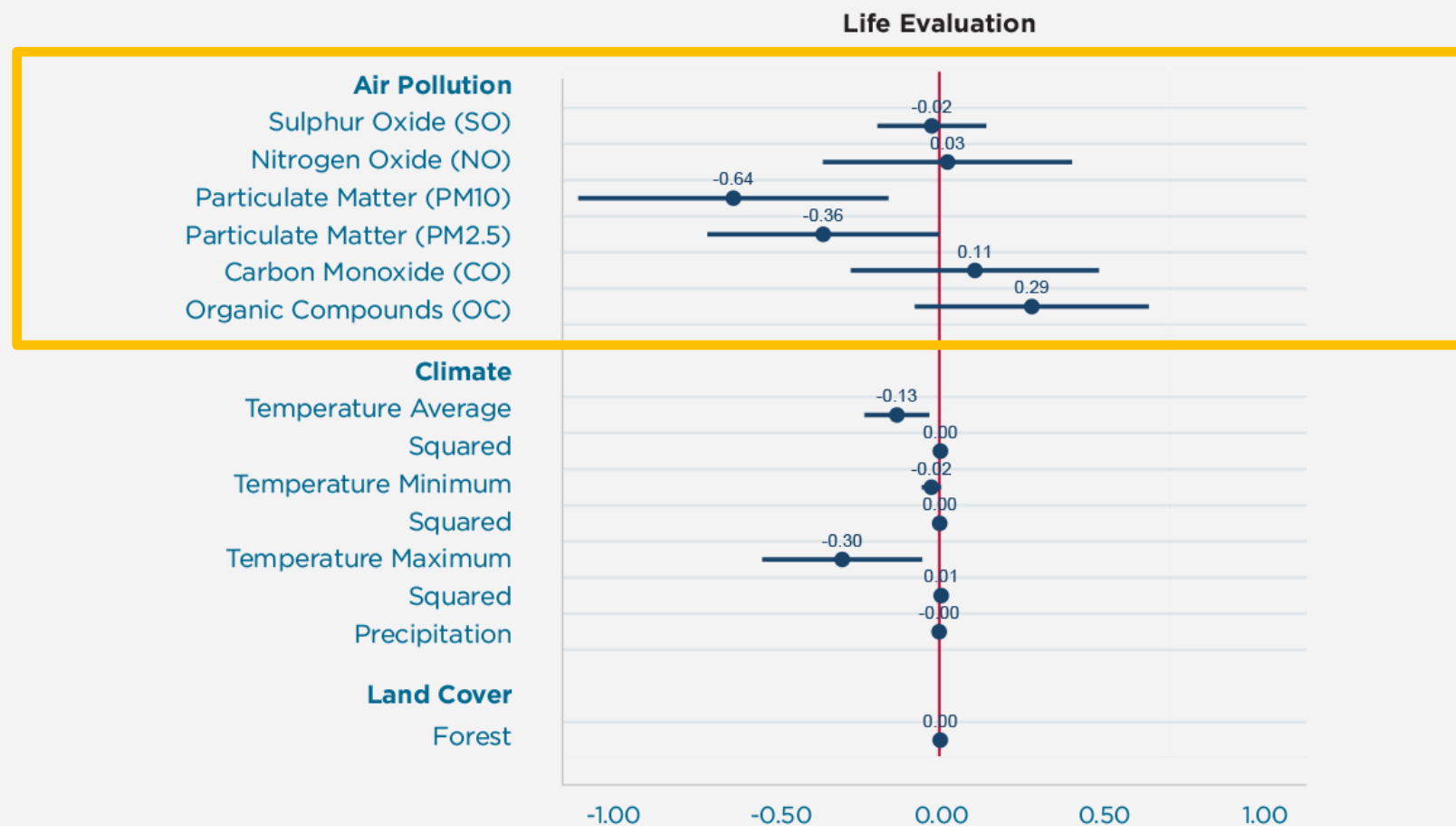
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- Increasing global concern for environment, especially around climate change
- Three main reasons to think natural environments and high environmental quality will be good for happiness
- Relationship is challenging to prove, but a growing literature takes a range of approaches

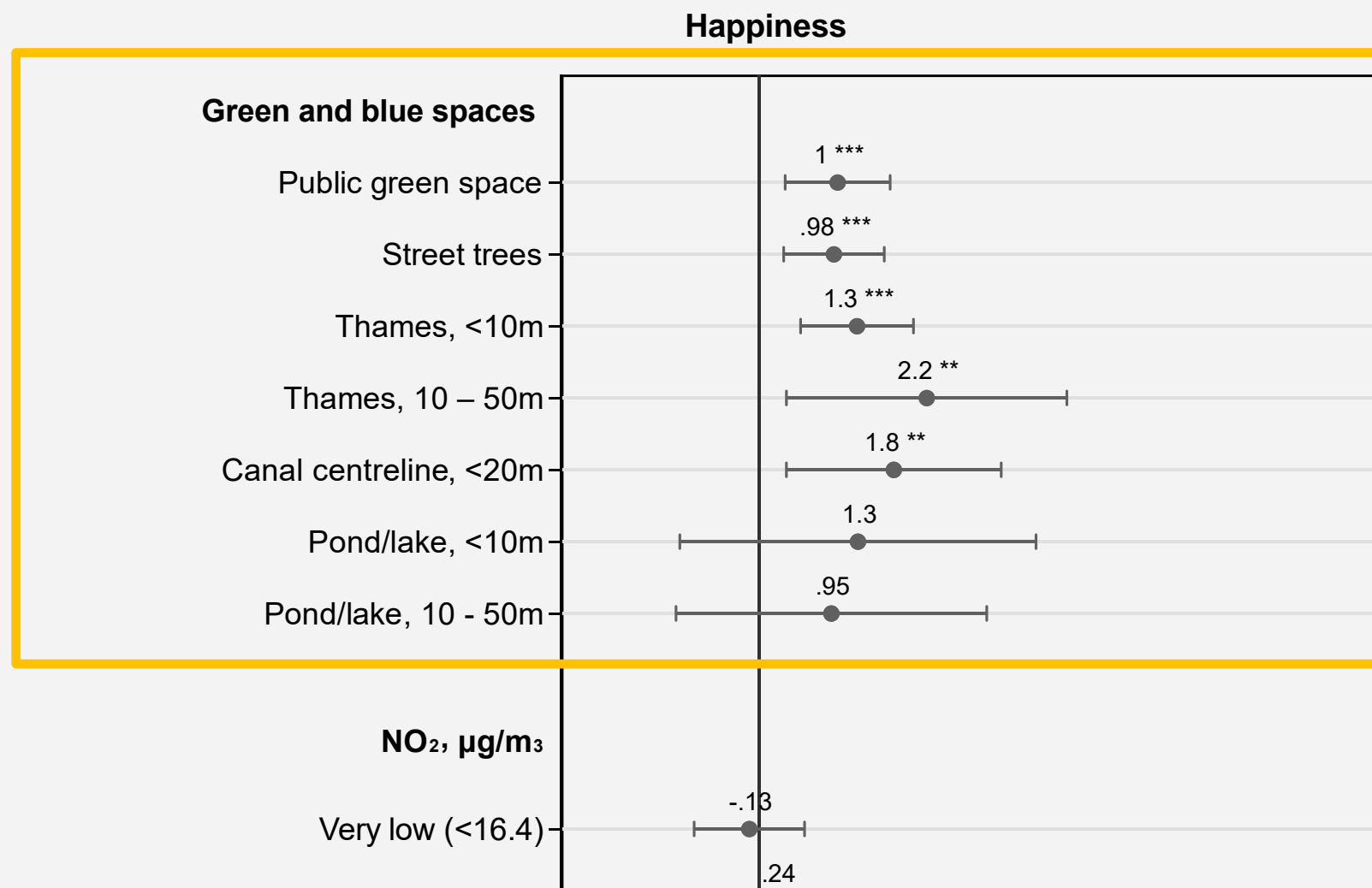
## This chapter: two empirical approaches

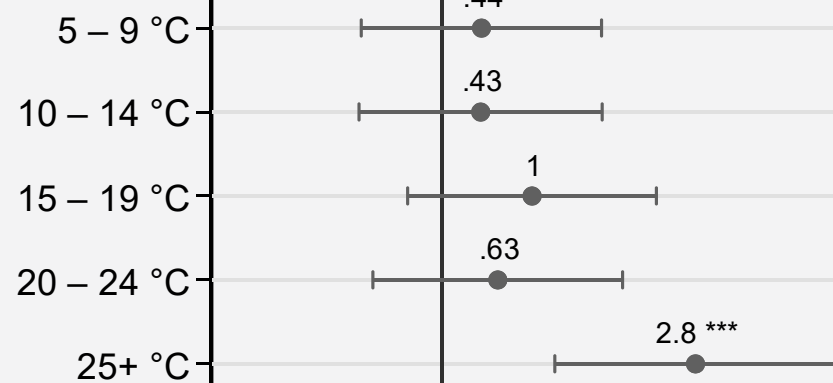
- Very high level
  - Analysis across countries
  - Life evaluation, positive and negative affect (Gallup World Poll)  
+ country-level environment data (OECD, World Bank)
- Very low level
  - Analysis within one city: London
  - Repeated happiness ratings with GPS location (*Mappiness* app)  
+ immediate environment, then and there (multiple sources)

**Figure 5.2: How Environmental Quality Affects Life Evaluation Around the World**

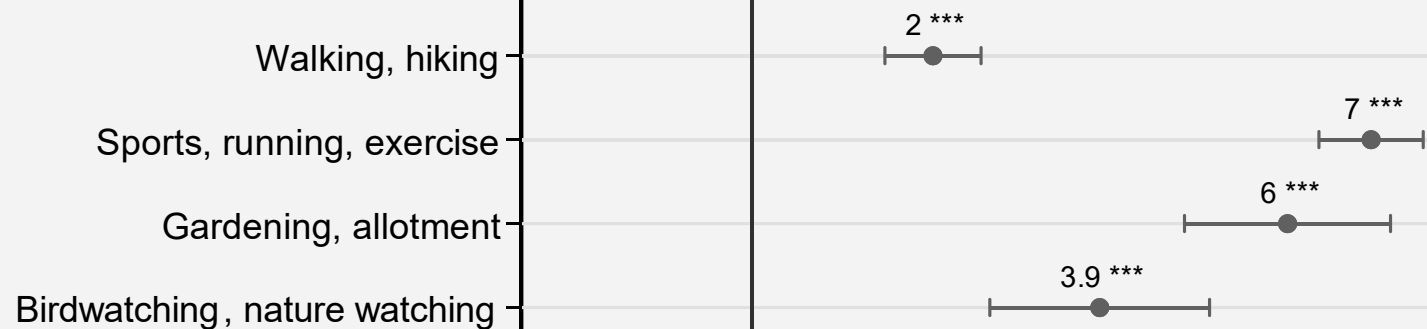


**Figure 5.3: Happiness Associations With Environmental Characteristics  
When Being Outdoors in Greater London**

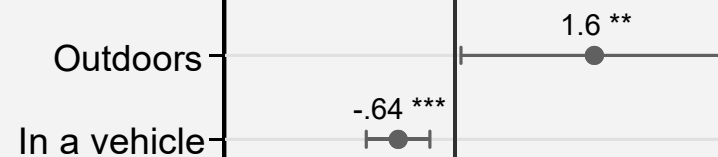




### Selected activities



### Location (base: indoors)



### Location (base: at home)

1.1 \*\*\*

- Improving models to help us understand:
  - robust causal impacts of the natural environment on happiness
  - specific routes and mechanisms by which this impact occurs



## World Happiness Report

2020



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CHOOSE HAPPIER TOGETHER