

The Covid-19 pandemic affected the entire world. It put everyone into lockdown and shined a light on the imperfections of our governments and institutions. The overall happiness of individual countries and what causes their happiness was affected by this. We aim to quantify trends in happiness across 3 years pre, mid and post Covid. Beyond happiness, the Gallup Poll gathers various other data from ~150 countries who participated in the poll. Each variable is defined below. We found that generosity has almost 0 correlation with happiness and omit that variable from further analysis. We then take the remaining 5 variables and apply the KMapper algorithm. One large result we find is that in 2020, the world's countries are less fragmented by the 5 variables we examine. They come closer together by those metrics relative to 2018 and 2022. We investigated deeper to discover that GDP did not have a heavy weight on how fractured the clusters were, but corruption did. Further investigation showed that the pandemic did not greatly affect corruption. Since the number of clusters was consistent before and through the pandemic, we can assert that the pandemic did not create large enough outliers of these variables relative to their closest neighbors in happiness.