

## Pandas are why Taipei is happy: deputy mayor

<b>panda cub</b>	baby panda
1. <b>deputy</b> <b>mayor</b> <b>attributed</b> ...to... <b>ranking</b> <b>happiness index</b> <b>infrastructure</b>	second-in-command/vice leader and representative of a city regarded ...as coming from... place/position table of happiness levels (development of) communication and transport networks
2. <b>municipalities</b> <b>counties</b> <b>survey</b>	urban areas areas/regions study/investigation
3. <b>administrative district</b> <b>disposable</b> <b>household income</b> <b>connectivity</b> <b>life expectancy</b> <b>educational attainment</b> <b>residents</b>	area under governance extra/can be thrown away money received by a group in one home the ease of connecting average life span to do with education achievement people living in an area
5. <b>artificially</b> <b>inseminate</b> <b>sperm</b>	not naturally to put the male sperm into the female egg the fluid that comes from the male during sex
6. <b>diplomacy</b>	communication/negotiation between groups or <b>countries</b>
7. <b>touted</b> <b>metro network</b> <b>YouBike public bicycle rental system</b> <b>rehabilitate</b>	advertize/publicize MRT system Taipei's bike sharing scheme make better
8. <b>dimensions</b> <b>loosely based on</b> <b>well-being</b> <b>index</b>	normally means size (in the text it means aspects/factors) roughly following the state of being well (healthy and happy) table/database/list
9. <b>community</b> <b>support network</b> <b>life satisfaction</b>	people in an area cooperation between people to help each other contentment (regarding life)
10. <b>responses</b>	answers

## Pandas are why Taipei is happy: deputy mayor



Photo showing the two-month-old **panda cub** Yuan Zai in Taipei Zoo yesterday.

Photo courtesy of Taipei Zoo

1. A *deputy* Taipei **mayor** **attributed** the city's improved **ranking** in the nation's "**happiness index**" to a two-month-old panda cub and improvements in **infrastructure**.
2. Taipei, which had an overall score of 65.1, moved up six places to finish second behind Hsinchu City among the nation's 22 *municipalities*, **counties** and cities in this year's **survey** conducted by the Economic Daily News and Nan Shan Life Insurance Co.
3. Taipei had the highest score of any *administrative district* for *disposable household income*, Internet **connectivity**, **life expectancy** and **educational attainment** (measuring the percentage of **residents** holding at least a college degree).
4. Deputy Taipei Mayor Tim Ting (丁庭宇) said at a briefing held to present the survey's results that the birth of the giant panda cub at the Taipei Zoo on July 6 helped increase the happiness of the city's residents.
5. The birth of the cub came after the zoo *artificially inseminated* its female panda named Yuan Yuan (圓圓) using **sperm** from the male panda, Tuan Tuan (團團).
6. As part of its "panda **diplomacy**," China gave the two pandas to the zoo in 2008.
7. Ting also **touted** several infrastructure projects, such as the development of the **metro network**, the creation of the **YouBike public bicycle rental system** and efforts to **rehabilitate** the Tamsui River (淡水河), as factors in the result.
8. Hsinchu's score of 71.1 was the highest in Taiwan in the **well-being index**, compiled for the second time this year and *loosely based on* the 11 core **dimensions** of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's "Better Life Index."
9. According to the survey, Hsinchu led Taiwan in such categories as **air pollution**, health, **community support network**, housing, and **life satisfaction**.
10. The survey collected **responses** from 22,500 people.

<http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2013/09/13/2003572043>

**Q1** – Do you agree with the deputy mayors comments? Can a panda bear really make a big difference to people's happiness levels?

**2013**

City	Quality of Life Index	Purchasing Power Index	Safety Index	Health Care Index	Consumer Price Index	Property Price to Income Ratio	Traffic Commute Time Index	Pollution Index
<b>1<sup>st</sup> - Zurich, Switzerland</b>	<b>233.72</b>	<b>145.55</b>	<b>84.65</b>	<b>78.33</b>	<b>159.91</b>	<b>7.94</b>	<b>25.75</b>	<b>18.76</b>
Tokyo, Japan	147.86	86.15	86.09	71.53	124.00	10.66	50.30	32.35
New York, NY, United States	125.82	100.00	52.67	51.39	100.00	8.43	31.58	51.72
Hong Kong, Hong Kong	118.49	92.55	83.69	67.59	82.95	17.48	40.83	63.65
Paris, France	97.86	85.53	46.25	83.33	119.01	15.66	31.57	58.11
<b>Taipei, Taiwan</b>	<b>97.04</b>	<b>69.63</b>	<b>84.29</b>	<b>88.89</b>	<b>67.74</b>	<b>25.93</b>	<b>38.33</b>	<b>60.67</b>
London, United Kingdom	83.67	79.85	49.86	69.53	110.69	15.31	50.55	55.30
Shanghai, China	34.99	49.54	83.49	78.70	70.44	28.63	34.33	93.01

**January 2015**

City	Quality of Life Index	Purchasing Power Index	Safety Index	Health Care Index	Consumer Price Index	Property Price to Income Ratio	Traffic Commute Time Index	Pollution Index
<b>1<sup>st</sup> - Canberra, Australia</b>	<b>242.18</b>	<b>134.75</b>	<b>69.15</b>	<b>74.27</b>	<b>96.96</b>	<b>4.79</b>	<b>18.62</b>	<b>8.27</b>
Tokyo, Japan	170.50	96.79	76.99	85.03	85.41	8.66	44.15	35.07
<b>Taipei, Taiwan</b>	<b>123.35</b>	<b>84.64</b>	<b>78.66</b>	<b>86.73</b>	<b>55.89</b>	<b>25.79</b>	<b>29.60</b>	<b>51.09</b>
New York, NY, United States	117.39	100.00	52.85	46.25	100.00	8.93	39.38	52.82
London, United Kingdom	97.09	82.95	53.43	74.73	105.80	16.56	44.05	51.99
Paris, France	88.14	89.21	45.10	80.74	99.61	17.23	39.45	66.15
Hong Kong, Hong Kong	65.24	67.12	82.20	80.62	77.36	36.83	44.60	57.41
Shanghai, China	32.91	56.03	72.51	58.72	57.07	26.68	42.80	85.68

Cities where liveability has **improved** most (valid as of 2013)

City	Country	Rank out of 140	Five-year improvement in %
Bogota	Colombia	111	+7.9
Harare	Zimbabwe	136	+3.2
Dubai	UAE	77	+2.9
Algiers	Algeria	134	+2.9
Kuwait City	Kuwait	81	+2.5
Dhaka	Bangladesh	139	+2.5
<b>Taipei</b>	<b>Taiwan</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>+2.0</b>
Colombo	Sri Lanka	128	+1.8
Bratislava	Slovakia	63	+1.7
Phnom Penh	Cambodia	126	+1.6

World Happiness report 2013

52. El Salvador (5.809)	34. Cyprus (6.466)	17. United States (7.082)
51. Poland (5.822)	33. Saudi Arabia (6.480)	16. Mexico (7.088)
50. Bolivia (5.857)	32. Kuwait (6.515)	15. Panama (7.143)
49. Ecuador (5.865)	31. Trinidad and Tobago (6.519)	14. United Arab Emirates (7.144)
48. Malta (5.964)	30. Singapore (6.546)	13. New Zealand (7.221)
47. Guatemala (5.965)	29. Argentina (6.562)	12. Costa Rica (7.257)
46. Slovakia (5.969)	28. Chile (6.587)	11. Israel (7.301)
45. Italy (6.021)	27. Qatar (6.666)	10. Australia (7.350)
44. Slovenia (6.060)	26. Germany (6.672)	9. Iceland (7.355)
43. Japan (6.064)	25. France (6.764)	8. Austria (7.369)
<b>42. Taiwan (6.221)</b>	24. Brazil (6.849)	7. Finland (7.389)
41. South Korea (6.267)	23. Oman (6.853)	6. Canada (7.477)
40. Suriname (6.269)	22. United Kingdom (6.883)	5. Sweden (7.480)
39. Czech Republic (6.290)	21. Belgium (6.967)	4. Netherlands (7.512)
38. Spain (6.322)	20. Venezuela (7.039)	3. Switzerland (7.650)
37. Uruguay (6.355)	19. Luxembourg (7.054)	2. Norway (7.655)
36. Thailand (6.371)	18. Ireland (7.076)	1. Denmark (7.693)
35. Colombia (6.416)		

Information taken from the World happiness Report: [http://unsdsn.org/files/2013/09/WorldHappinessReport2013\\_online.pdf](http://unsdsn.org/files/2013/09/WorldHappinessReport2013_online.pdf)

Q2: Are these studies accurate and reliable?

Q3: Does more money mean more happiness?

Q4: How do you feel Taipei can improve more as a place to live?



[www.flavorwire.com](http://www.flavorwire.com)

[www.blogs.wsj](http://www.blogs.wsj)

[www.wasitoraithinkflickr.com](http://www.wasitoraithinkflickr.com)

This article is stored online at [Peacemakerfoundation.com](http://Peacemakerfoundation.com)

The Peacemaker Foundation Campaigns & Projects to Promote Health & Wellbeing