Impact of an Economic Collapse on Child Health in Iceland

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Gross Domestic Product
Iceland 2007-2014

Index, Q3 2008=100

USA
OECD
UK
Main trade
IS
EURO

Central Bank of Iceland, Peningamál November 2014
Credit boom as share of GDP
Credit to the private sector in Iceland 1990-2010

Bringing down a banking system. Lessons from Iceland.
Guðrún Johnsen, 2014.
Gini Coefficient
Iceland 1993-2013

Stefán Ólafsson, University of Iceland (2014)
Total effective tax burden
Top 1% in Iceland 1992-2011

Stefán Ólafsson, University of Iceland (2014)
What can we do?

What are the results?
At risk of poverty and material deprivation by age
Iceland 2004-2014
Child poverty in Iceland and Greece
By year of anchoring of median income

OECD 2014
Proportion of children at risk of poverty

Poverty by older parent’s age

Proportion of materially deprived children

Statistics Iceland, 2014
Children at risk of material deprivation in Europe 2012

Source: Eurostat
Has the economic crisis had an impact on child health in Iceland?
Attendance to maternity care
Iceland 2000-2014
Births and fertility rate
Iceland 1995-2012

Statistics Iceland, 2015
Infant mortality
Iceland 1951-2013
Outcome of births
Iceland 2000-2014

Directorate of Health/University Hospital, 2015
Crisis and perinatal health
Iceland January 2008-December 2009

Eiríksdóttir V et al.
PLOS ONE 2013;8(12):1-9
Home visitations for newborns
Iceland 2005-2013

Directorate of Health, Iceland, 2015
Any breastfeeding by age
Iceland 2004-2014

* Data from 2009 are not available for technical reasons
Curative visits 0-17 years to doctors
Iceland 2005-2013
Use of maternity/paternity leave
Iceland 2001-2014

Data from Maternity/Paternity Leave Fund; * Preliminary data
Participation in pre-schools
Iceland 1998-2013

Statistics Iceland, 2015
Visits to school health nurse
Reykjavik Capital Area 2004-2014

Compulsory school 6-15 years
Primary Health Care Organisation, 2015
Diagnosis* in Primary Health Care
Children <18 years, Iceland 2005-2013

* Builds on Child Poverty Monitor, New Zealand
Use of methylphenidate by age
Iceland 2003-2014
Alcohol, tobacco and cannabis
Iceland (14-15 years) 1997-2014
Time spent with parents

Proportion of 14-15 years old adolescents who report their parents monitor with whom they spend the evenings

ICSRA - Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis
Happiness of adolescents
Iceland 2000-2010

ICRSA - Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis
World Happiness Report 2015

Ranking of Happiness 2012-2014

1. Switzerland (7.587)
2. Iceland (7.561)
3. Denmark (7.527)
4. Norway (7.522)
5. Canada (7.427)
6. Finland (7.406)
7. Netherlands (7.378)
8. Sweden (7.364)
9. New Zealand (7.286)
10. Australia (7.284)

- Explained by: GDP per capita
- Explained by: social support
- Explained by: healthy life expectancy
- Explained by: freedom to make life choices
- Explained by: generosity
- Explained by: perceptions of corruption
- Dystopia (2.10) + residual
- 95% confidence interval

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
Conclusions

• Historic economic collapse
  – Unemployment
  – Felt increased relative child poverty
  – Policy of redistribution

• Impact on child health
  – No major short term impact, but ...

• Future perspectives
  – Mental health
  – Inequality
  – Uncertain