

**Appendix A.** Mean self-rated health for each educational type and country separately

|              | Up to lower secondary | Full upper-secondary vocation | Full upper-secondary academic | Tertiary |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | 2.95                  | 3.08                          | 3.17                          | 3.27     |
| <b>DE</b>    | 2.81                  | 2.86                          | 3.12                          | 3.06     |
| <b>CZ</b>    | 2.77                  | 3.15                          | 3.24                          | 3.37     |
| <b>HU</b>    | 2.63                  | 2.87                          | 3.04                          | 3.12     |
| <b>SK</b>    | 2.94                  | 2.93                          | 3.10                          | 3.20     |
| <b>BE</b>    | 2.97                  | 3.09                          | 3.17                          | 3.28     |
| <b>NL</b>    | 2.82                  | 2.94                          | 3.06                          | 3.17     |
| <b>SI</b>    | 2.80                  | 2.85                          | 3.01                          | 3.19     |
| <b>LU</b>    | 2.86                  | 3.05                          | 3.29                          | 3.27     |
| <b>IT</b>    | 3.02                  | 3.15                          | 3.09                          | 3.03     |
| <b>CH</b>    | 3.16                  | 3.32                          | 3.36                          | 3.42     |
| <b>PT</b>    | 2.85                  | 3.23                          | 3.09                          | 3.11     |
| <b>PL</b>    | 2.96                  | 2.92                          | 3.06                          | 3.15     |
| <b>IL</b>    | 3.20                  | 3.51                          | 3.60                          | 3.62     |
| <b>IE</b>    | 3.14                  | 3.47                          | 3.39                          | 3.48     |
| <b>FR</b>    | 2.79                  | 2.94                          | 3.01                          | 3.15     |
| <b>ES</b>    | 2.96                  | 2.99                          | 3.13                          | 3.09     |
| <b>IS</b>    | 3.07                  | 3.21                          | 3.26                          | 3.39     |
| <b>FI</b>    | 3.00                  | 3.09                          | 3.10                          | 3.25     |
| <b>DK</b>    | 3.04                  | 3.30                          | 3.28                          | 3.39     |
| <b>SE</b>    | 3.05                  | 3.13                          | 3.19                          | 3.32     |
| <b>NO</b>    | 2.97                  | 3.11                          | 3.18                          | 3.34     |
| <b>GB</b>    | 2.91                  | 3.06                          | 3.15                          | 3.33     |

**Appendix B.** Country-level and country-year level descriptive statistics (N = 22)

|                        | Tracking<br>Index | Vocation<br>al<br>Enrollme<br>nt Index | HAQ<br>Index   | Gross<br>public<br>social<br>expendit<br>ure | GDP per<br>capita<br>at current<br>prices in<br>US\$<br>(/1000) | Gini<br>coefficie<br>nt | Sample<br>size |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|                        | Index<br>score    | Index<br>score                         | Index<br>score | Mean                                         | Mean                                                            | Mean                    | N              |
| DE – Germany           | 1.79              | 0.89                                   | 86             | 25.28                                        | 39.30                                                           | 28.45                   | 8968           |
| CZ – Czech<br>Republic | 1.67              | 1.74                                   | 85             | 19.08                                        | 17.69                                                           | 25.57                   | 6274           |
| HU – Hungary           | 1.30              | -0.70                                  | 80             | 21.97                                        | 12.13                                                           | 28.43                   | 4724           |
| SK – Slovakia          | 1.06              | 1.49                                   | 79             | 16.58                                        | 29.62                                                           | 25.90                   | 3415           |
| BE – Belgium           | 1.04              | 0.95                                   | 88             | 27.05                                        | 40.41                                                           | 25.91                   | 6148           |
| NL –<br>Netherlands    | 0.97              | 1.26                                   | 90             | 20.88                                        | 44.95                                                           | 26.27                   | 5997           |
| SI – Slovenia          | 0.76              | 1.06                                   | 87             | 22.15                                        | 20.74                                                           | 24.45                   | 4348           |
| LU –<br>Luxembourg     | 0.76              | 0.99                                   | 89             | 21.87                                        | 65.38                                                           | 26.72                   | 1466           |
| IT – Italy             | 0.18              | 0.95                                   | 89             | 28.09                                        | 34.81                                                           | 33.10                   | 370            |
| CH –<br>Switzerland    | -0.02             | 1.08                                   | 92             | 18.30                                        | 66.60                                                           | 28.92                   | 5868           |
| PT – Portugal          | -0.04             | -0.44                                  | 85             | 23.81                                        | 22.61                                                           | 34.91                   | 2741           |
| PL – Poland            | -0.04             | 0.30                                   | 80             | 20.50                                        | 10.69                                                           | 31.68                   | 6322           |
| IL – Israel            | -0.13             | -0.27                                  | 86             | 16.59                                        | 31.15                                                           | 36.55                   | 5801           |
| IE – Ireland           | -0.13             | -0.35                                  | 88             | 19.80                                        | 54.03                                                           | 30.14                   | 4579           |
| FR – France            | -0.48             | 0.39                                   | 88             | 30.17                                        | 40.71                                                           | 29.41                   | 4502           |
| ES – Spain             | -0.80             | 0.00                                   | 90             | 22.95                                        | 14.91                                                           | 32.99                   | 6218           |
| IS – Iceland           | -0.88             | -0.14                                  | 94             | 16.25                                        | 51.09                                                           | 24.57                   | 5801           |
| FI – Finland           | -0.93             | 0.74                                   | 90             | 29.73                                        | 46.94                                                           | 25.50                   | 2255           |
| DK – Denmark           | -0.93             | 0.45                                   | 86             | 26.72                                        | 53.21                                                           | 24.32                   | 4266           |
| SE – Sweden            | -1.06             | 0.69                                   | 90             | 26.84                                        | 49.14                                                           | 24.90                   | 5383           |
| NO – Norway            | -1.08             | 0.89                                   | 90             | 21.85                                        | 76.27                                                           | 25.18                   | 5905           |
| GB – United<br>Kingdom | -1.08             | 0.47                                   | 85             | 22.14                                        | 41.87                                                           | 33.19                   | 3296           |

**Appendix C.** Self-rated health regressed on educational type, and Tracking Index. Total population aged 25-40  
(N<sub>countries</sub> = 22; N<sub>country-years</sub> = 129; N<sub>individuals</sub> = 59,021, weighted sample)<sup>a</sup>

|                                                                                    | Model 4           |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----|
|                                                                                    | b                 |     |
|                                                                                    | SE                |     |
| Intercept                                                                          | 3.128<br>(0.057)  | *** |
| <i>Educational type (Full upper-secondary vocational = reference)</i>              |                   |     |
| Up to lower secondary                                                              | -0.135<br>(0.016) | *** |
| Full upper-secondary academic                                                      | 0.018<br>(0.013)  |     |
| Tertiary                                                                           | 0.109<br>(0.013)  | *** |
| Tracking                                                                           | -0.034<br>(0.043) |     |
| <i>Education attainment (Full upper-secondary vocational = reference)*Tracking</i> |                   |     |
| Up to lower secondary                                                              | 0.020<br>(0.013)  |     |
| Full upper-secondary academic                                                      | 0.028<br>(0.010)  | *   |
| Tertiary                                                                           | 0.006<br>(0.008)  |     |

\*p < .05; \*\*p < .01; \*\*\* p < .001 (two-tailed test).

Tracking is centered on its grand mean

<sup>a</sup> Only the main coefficients are presented

**Appendix D.** Employment status and household income regressed on educational type, and Tracking Index <sup>a</sup>

|                                                                                    | Reference category: Employed    |                                            | Reference category: highest income |                             | Logodds<br>(SE)   | Logodds<br>(SE) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                    | Unemployed,<br>looking for work | Unemployed<br>,<br>not looking<br>for work | Modest<br>income                   | High<br>income              |                   |                 |
|                                                                                    | Logodds<br>(SE)                 | Logodds<br>(SE)                            | Logodds<br>(SE)                    | Logodds<br>(SE)             |                   |                 |
| <i>Educational type (Full upper-secondary vocational = reference)</i>              |                                 |                                            |                                    |                             |                   |                 |
| Up to lower secondary                                                              | 0.741<br>(0.038)                | *<br>*<br>1.046<br>(0.064)                 | *<br>*<br>*<br>(0.025)             | *<br>*<br>*<br>(0.024)      |                   | *<br>*<br>*     |
| Full upper-secondary academic                                                      | -0.109<br>(0.040)               | *<br>*<br>0.009<br>(0.069)                 |                                    | *<br>*<br>-0.148<br>(0.024) |                   | *<br>*<br>*     |
| Tertiary                                                                           | -0.269<br>(0.054)               | *<br>*<br>-0.730<br>(0.084)                | *<br>*<br>*<br>(0.028)             | *<br>*<br>-0.730<br>(0.021) |                   | *<br>*<br>*     |
| Tracking                                                                           | 0.096<br>(0.098)                |                                            | 0.076<br>(0.108)                   | 0.107<br>(0.058)            | 0.068<br>(0.091)  |                 |
| <i>Education attainment (Full upper-secondary vocational = reference)*Tracking</i> |                                 |                                            |                                    |                             |                   |                 |
| Up to lower secondary                                                              | 0.094<br>(0.038)                | *<br>0.354<br>(0.059)                      | *<br>*<br>*<br>(0.025)             |                             | -0.015<br>(0.024) |                 |
| Full upper-secondary academic                                                      | -0.253<br>(0.040)               | *<br>*<br>-0.237<br>(0.070)                | *<br>*<br>*<br>(0.024)             | *<br>*<br>-0.146<br>(0.024) |                   | *<br>*<br>*     |
| Tertiary                                                                           | -0.114<br>(0.044)               | *<br>-0.143<br>(0.084)                     |                                    | *<br>-0.245<br>(0.029)      | -0.128<br>(0.021) | *<br>*          |

<sup>a</sup> All models are adjusted for the same individual-level and macro-level control variables as those used in the main analysis