

Adult Behavior Checklist – Peer Survey

Year 19

Fast Track Project Technical Report

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Citation

Instrument

Achenbach, Thomas M., Manual for the young adult self-report and young adult behavior checklist, University of Vermont, Department of Psychiatry, Burlington, VT, **1997**, (ISBN 0938565451).

Report

Sandoval, J. M. (2011) Adult Behavior Checklist (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Data Sources

Raw: F19A

Scored: FSR19

I. Survey Description

This measure was applied to a peer nominated by the Fast Track respondent. All questions of this measure applied to the Fast Track respondent as reported by the nominated peer.

The Adult Behavior Checklist is a 132-item instrument based on Achenbach's 126 item measure. This measure was first added to the Fast Track Protocol in study year 19. This measure assesses multiple traits. The response options vary based on the type of question asked. The response "I prefer not to answer" is omitted from all tables. Most questions collected responses using three levels, namely "not true", "sometime true" and "often true". A different variation was used for 10 items, namely "never", "sometimes" and "often". The dichotomy "yes/no" is used in a single item.

There are 10 scales created in this measure reporting the following: Withdrawn Problem, Somatic Problem, Anxious/Depressed Problem, Internalizing, Intrusive Problems, Thought Problems, Attention Problems, Delinquent Behavior Problems, Aggressive Behavior Problems, Externalizing and the Total Sum of items. In addition to these 10 scales another 10 variables are generated, corresponding to each scale, by computing t-scores using Achenbach's scoring protocol. The scores of these variables vary by gender.

II. Report Sample

These analyses were conducted on peers of respondents for the first cohort on the high-risk Control sample (n = 96) and the Normative sample (n = 195) for the nineteenth year of the study. The distribution

of respondents by site was as follows: for the Control sample, 29 were from Durham, 20 were from Nashville, 28 were from Pennsylvania and 19 were from Washington. For the Normative sample, 56 were from Durham, 44 were from Nashville, 58 were from Pennsylvania and 37 were from Washington.

III. Frequencies of Selected Variables

Tables 1.1 and 1.2 below, show counts of respondents who self report various traits. The user is encouraged to test for association between these traits and sample group (Control and Normative).

Table 1.1

Frequency of Responses for Peer of Respondent for the Adult Behavior Checklist Variables

<i>Question</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>
	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>
...is too forgetful.	40	45	11	103	70	20
...makes good use of his/her opportunities.	8	36	52	10	50	134
...argues a lot.	35	32	28	96	68	28
...works up to his/her ability.	9	28	59	13	41	140
...blames others for his/her problems.	61	22	13	145	41	8
...uses drugs (other than alcohol and nicotine) for non-medical purposes.	69	16	9	161	24	7
...brags.	57	26	13	150	33	11
...has trouble concentrating or paying attention for long.	48	31	17	122	57	15
...can't get his/her mind off certain thoughts.	30	47	18	72	99	23
...has trouble sitting still.	57	25	14	135	46	11
...is too dependent on others.	57	21	17	142	37	14
...feels lonely.	48	37	10	105	66	21
...feels confused or in a fog	59	32	5	130	55	8
...cries a lot.	82	12	2	157	29	4
...is pretty honest.	5	19	72	3	36	156
...is mean to others.	65	23	7	145	45	4
...daydreams a lot.	48	30	14	123	54	7
...has deliberately tried to hurt or kill him-/herself.	88	4	0	185	7	1
...tries to get a lot of attention.	59	21	16	143	39	13
...damages or destroys his/her things.	81	14	1	184	9	2
...damages or destroys things belonging to others.	79	14	2	184	10	1
...worries about his/her future.	15	45	36	45	97	53
...breaks rules at work or elsewhere.	71	18	6	160	31	3
...doesn't eat as well as he/she should.	42	36	16	94	70	30
...doesn't get along with other people.	61	30	5	146	46	3
...feels guilty after he/she does something he/she shouldn't.	29	32	33	34	90	66
...is jealous of others.	62	27	6	142	46	5
...gets along badly with his/her family.	58	27	9	146	38	11
...is afraid of certain animals, situations or places.	54	35	6	107	64	23
...has poor relations with the opposite sex.	64	22	8	163	21	10
...is afraid he/she might think or do something bad.	60	31	4	170	20	5
...feels that he/she has to be perfect.	57	28	11	120	54	20
...feel that no one loves him/her.	58	28	9	159	28	8
...feels that others are out to get him/her.	60	24	12	165	26	4
...feels worthless or inferior.	61	31	4	164	25	6
...accidentally gets hurt a lot / is accident-prone.	76	15	5	164	28	2
...gets in many fights.	74	16	5	179	13	3
...has poor relations with neighbors.	82	8	4	173	17	5

Note: These questions report only not true, sometime true and often true. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1 Continued

<i>Question</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>
	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>
...hangs around people who get in trouble.	54	29	14	155	32	8
...hears sounds or voices that other people think aren't there.	89	5	2	189	3	2
...is impulsive or acts without thinking.	45	35	16	115	66	14
...would rather be alone than with others.	64	24	7	117	68	9
...lies or cheats.	62	29	4	153	35	4
...feels overwhelmed by his/her responsibilities.	36	46	14	87	91	16
...is nervous or tense.	53	34	9	115	69	11
...twitches or has parts of his/her body that make nervous movements.	77	11	8	177	10	8
...lacks self-confidence.	59	28	9	122	56	17
...is not liked by others.	71	17	8	169	24	2
...can do certain things better than other people.	9	49	38	16	122	67
...is too fearful or anxious.	63	22	10	156	29	9
...feels dizzy or lightheaded.	79	12	4	165	26	2
...often feels guilt.	63	25	6	146	45	3
...has trouble planning for the future.	42	38	13	112	61	22
...feels tired without good reason.	60	23	12	128	54	13
...has moods that swing between elation and depression.	58	18	19	139	36	19
...physically attacks people.	77	16	3	185	8	2
...picks his/her skin or other parts of his/her body.	73	18	5	171	16	8
...fails to finish things he/she should do.	48	36	11	118	65	11
...finds little that he/she enjoys.	65	23	8	149	36	10
...performs poorly at work.	78	13	2	180	13	1
...is poorly coordinated or clumsy.	75	20	1	163	29	3
...would rather be with older people than with people of his/her own age.	48	27	21	108	68	18
...has trouble setting priorities.	47	39	10	125	53	16
...refuses to talk.	67	22	7	162	27	6
...repeats certain acts over and over.	60	26	10	144	43	8
...has trouble making or keeping friends.	77	127	7	168	20	7
...screams or yells a lot.	65	21	10	149	35	11
...is secretive or keeps things to him-/herself.	46	37	13	98	80	16
...sees things that other people think aren't there.	88	6	2	190	4	1
...is self-conscious or easily embarrassed.	63	25	8	128	50	16
...worries about his/her family.	18	41	37	42	100	53
...meets his/her responsibilities to his/her family.	6	34	55	16	46	133
...shows off or clowns around.	32	43	21	108	63	24
...is too shy or timid.	75	17	4	144	45	6
...likes to engage in risky behavior.	46	37	13	141	49	5
...sleeps more than most other people.	68	18	10	134	46	14
...has trouble making decisions.	49	34	13	121	62	12
...has a speech problem.	88	5	3	182	10	3
...stands up for his/her rights.	3	25	68	9	51	134

Note: These questions report only not true, sometime true and often true. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1 Continued

<i>Question</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>
	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>	<i>Not True</i>	<i>Someti me True</i>	<i>Often True</i>
... has behavior than is very changeable.	46	32	17	112	62	20
... steals.	83	9	3	186	5	4
... is easily bored.	27	54	15	100	69	26
... does things that other people think are strange.	50	34	12	129	58	8
... has thoughts that other people would think are strange.	55	31	10	139	53	2
...is stubborn, sullen, or irritable.	37	34	24	86	85	24
...has moods or feelings that change suddenly.	45	30	21	121	53	20
... enjoys being with people.	4	31	61	7	49	139
... rushes into things without considering the risks.	40	36	20	126	49	19
... drinks too much alcohol or get drunk too frequently.	62	27	4	167	14	13
... thinks about killing him-/herself.	87	6		185	10	
... does things that may cause him/her trouble with the law.	61	25	8	160	28	6
... talks too much.	49	32	15	116	58	21
... teases others a lot.	62	26	8	152	34	9
... has a hot temper.	42	34	20	116	62	17
... thinks about sex too much.	46	28	20	127	38	23
... threatens to hurt other people.	77	14	4	180	12	3
... likes to help others.	3	35	58	7	61	127
... dislikes staying in one place for too long.	37	38	21	86	83	26
... has trouble sleeping.	52	34	10	133	44	16
... misses work even when he/she is not sick or when he/she in not on vacation.	71	14	8	163	23	6
... doesn't have much energy.	64	24	8	135	53	7
... is unhappy, sad, or depressed.	53	32	11	134	51	10
...is louder than others.	49	32	15	126	45	24
... is believed to be disorganized by others.	57	31	7	148	36	11
... tries to be fair to others.	4	28	63	14	45	136
... feels that he/she can't succeed.	49	41	6	139	42	13
... tends to lose things.	37	44	14	103	71	21
... likes to try new things.	7	44	45	19	83	93
... wishes he/she were of the opposite sex.	91	3	1	190	3	2
... tries not to get socially or romantically involved with others.	63	20	11	151	32	8
... worries a lot.	37	40	19	99	68	28
... worries about his/her relations with the opposite sex.	52	29	14	114	58	18
... fails to pay his/her debts or meet other financial responsibilities.	58	17	21	142	35	17
... feels restless or fidgety.	54	33	9	144	42	7
... gets upset too easily.	40	35	21	108	71	16
... has trouble managing money or credit cards.	51	27	18	117	52	24
... is too impatient.	42	31	23	99	76	20
...is not good at details.	58	28	9	132	46	17
... drives too fast.	47	26	22	117	60	18
... tends to be late for appointments.	61	27	8	144	37	14
... has trouble keeping a job.	67	11	15	167	17	7
...is a happy person.	4	34	58	6	45	143

Note: These questions report only not true, sometime true and often true. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1.2

Frequency of Responses for Adult Behavior Checklist Variables

<i>Question</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>
	<i>Never</i>	<i>Someti mes</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Never</i>	<i>Someti mes</i>	<i>Often</i>
a. Aches or pains (not stomachaches or headaches)	45	39	12	96	89	8
b. Headaches	28	57	11	44	130	21
c. Nausea / feel sick	58	32	6	116	73	4
d. Problems with eyes (not corrected by glasses or contacts)	78	13	5	162	23	7
e. Rashes or other skin problems	77	12	6	147	37	10
f. Stomachaches	50	41	5	104	81	8
g. Vomiting / throwing up	73	21	2	164	27	2
h. Heart pounding or racing	73	21	1	161	26	6
i. Numbness or tingling in body parts	79	11	4	162	25	6

Note: These questions report only never, sometimes and often. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1.2 Continued

<i>Question</i>	<i>Contro l</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>
	<i>Never</i>	<i>Less than once a month</i>	<i>1-4 times per month</i>	<i>1-6 times per week</i>	<i>(Almost)E very day/night week</i>
PAST 6 MONTHS, how frequently did your peer get drunk?	30	23	28	10	2
PAST 6 MONTHS, how frequently did your peer use drugs for non-medical purposes (incl marij, cocaine, and other drugs; not incl alcohol or nicotine)?	64	6	6	6	7

Note: These questions report only never, less than once a month, 1-4 times per month, 1-6 times per week and (Almost) Every day/night week. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1.2 Continued

<i>Question</i>	<i>Normative</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Norma tive</i>	<i>Normative</i>	<i>Normative</i>
	<i>Never</i>	<i>Less than once a month</i>	<i>1-4 times per month</i>	<i>1-6 times per week</i>	<i>(Almost)Ev ery day/night week</i>
PAST 6 MONTHS, how frequently did your peer get drunk?	75	57	41	13	5
PAST 6 MONTHS, how frequently did your peer use drugs for non-medical purposes (incl marij, cocaine, and other drugs; not incl alcohol or nicotine)?	152	12	9	7	8

Note: These questions report only never, less than once a month, 1-4 times per month, 1-6 times per week and (Almost) Every day/night week. Other responses have been omitted.

Table 1.3

Frequency of Responses for Adult Behavior Checklist Variables

<i>Question</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Normative</i>	<i>Normative</i>
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
In the LAST 12 MONTHS, is there at least one person that your peer would call your romantic partner?	82	11	160	27

Note: These questions report only yes and no. Other responses have been omitted.

IV. Item Frequencies, Means and SDs

Table 2

Item Means and Standard Deviations for continuous variables

Group	N	Variable	Label	Mean	Std Dev
Control	96	f19a137	IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS, on average, how many TIMES PER DAY did your peer use tobacco (including smokeless tobacco)?	26.86	142.71
		FYSR19WIT	FYSR--Withdrawn Problem Yr19	2.74	2.75
		FYSR19WIT_T	Peer - Withdrawn YSR t-score	54.48	7.26
		FYSR19SOM	FYSR--Somatic Problem Yr19	4.67	4.11
		FYSR19SOM_T	Peer - Somatic complaints YSR t-score	57.83	8.59
		FYSR19ANX	FYSR--Anxious/Depressed Problem Yr19	9.41	7.15
		FYSR19ANX_T	Peer - Anxious/depress YSR t-score	55.71	7.18
		FYSR19INT	FYSR--Internalizing Yr19	12.15	9.26
		FYSR19INT_T	Peer - Internalizing YSR t-score	51.64	11.66
		FYSR19TRU	FYSR--Intrusive Problems Problem Yr19	3.67	3.40
		FYSR19TRU_T	Peer - Intrusive problems YSR t-score	55.79	8.44
		FYSR19THO	FYSR--Thought Problems Problem Yr19	0.97	1.42
		FYSR19THO_T	Peer - Thought problems YSR t-score	57.04	8.81
		FYSR19ATT	FYSR--Attention Problems Problem Yr19	4.04	3.15
		FYSR19ATT_T	Peer - Attention problems YSR t-score	57.38	8.18
		FYSR19DEL	FYSR--Delinquent Behavior Problem Yr19	3.33	3.40
		FYSR19DEL_T	Peer - Delinquent behavior YSR t-score	57.61	8.67
		FYSR19AGG	FYSR--Aggressive Behavior Problem Yr19	6.25	5.79
		FYSR19AGG_T	Peer - Aggressive behavior YSR t-score	59.31	11.32
		FYSR19EXT	FYSR--Externalizing Yr19	13.46	11.44
		FYSR19EXT_T	Peer - Externalizing YSR t-score	55.54	15.10
FYSR19SUM	FYSR--SUM Yr19	54.86	36.42		
FYSR19SUM_T	Peer - YSR total score t-score	56.19	13.56		
Normative	195	f19a137	IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS, on average, how many TIMES PER DAY did your peer use tobacco (including smokeless tobacco)?	46.76	530.64
		FYSR19WIT	FYSR--Withdrawn Problem Yr19	2.08	2.02
		FYSR19WIT_T	Peer - Withdrawn YSR t-score	52.84	5.05
		FYSR19SOM	FYSR--Somatic Problem Yr19	4.10	3.37
		FYSR19SOM_T	Peer - Somatic complaints YSR t-score	55.94	6.46
		FYSR19ANX	FYSR--Anxious/Depressed Problem Yr19	7.20	6.20
		FYSR19ANX_T	Peer - Anxious/depress YSR t-score	53.17	5.98
		FYSR19INT	FYSR--Internalizing Yr19	9.28	7.60
		FYSR19INT_T	Peer - Internalizing YSR t-score	47.37	10.56
		FYSR19TRU	FYSR--Intrusive Problems Problem Yr19	2.33	2.73
		FYSR19TRU_T	Peer - Intrusive problems YSR t-score	53.15	6.31
		FYSR19THO	FYSR--Thought Problems Problem Yr19	0.47	0.96
		FYSR19THO_T	Peer - Thought problems YSR t-score	53.89	6.57
		FYSR19ATT	FYSR--Attention Problems Problem Yr19	2.54	2.51
		FYSR19ATT_T	Peer - Attention problems YSR t-score	53.93	6.60
		FYSR19DEL	FYSR--Delinquent Behavior Problem Yr19	1.70	2.78
		FYSR19DEL_T	Peer - Delinquent behavior YSR t-score	54.39	7.50
		FYSR19AGG	FYSR--Aggressive Behavior Problem Yr19	3.86	4.04
		FYSR19AGG_T	Peer - Aggressive behavior YSR t-score	54.67	7.60
		FYSR19EXT	FYSR--Externalizing Yr19	8.15	8.40
		FYSR19EXT_T	Peer - Externalizing YSR t-score	49.13	12.73
FYSR19SUM	FYSR--SUM Yr19	39.77	28.25		
FYSR19SUM_T	Peer - YSR total score t-score	50.51	11.59		

V. Recommendations for Use

Achenbach (1997) recommends that raw scores be used in research. At the high end of the distribution, raw scores may be more precise and uniform than t-scores. In addition, on the behavior syndromes – but not the problems scales – below average t-scores have been truncated at 50. However, if sex differences

are not controlled in statistical analyses, it may be preferable to use t-scores.