

Neighborhood Questionnaire

Grade 7 /Year 8

Fast Track Project Technical Report

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Citation

Instrument

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1991). Neighborhood Questionnaire. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Report

Corrigan, A. (2002). *Neighborhood Questionnaire, Grade 7 /Year 8* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Greenberg, M. & Lengua, L. (1995). *Scale Construction for the Neighborhood Questionnaire* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Seattle, WA: University of Washington.

Data Sources

Unscored: P8P

Scored: NHQ8

I. Scale Description

The Neighborhood Questionnaire is a 16-item measure that assesses a parent's satisfaction with the family's neighborhood.

The questionnaire explores sociability in the neighborhood, the neighborhood's stability, the quality of public services (police, schools, transportation, garbage collection), neighborhood safety, the incidence of violent crime, drug traffic in the neighborhood, the parent's involvement with neighbors, and the parent's participation in neighborhood organizations.

Responses include three-point, four-point, five-point, six-point, and dichotomous scales. One item has nine response choices. Items ask about satisfaction level, quality, duration, quantity, level of involvement, and frequency. Three items are yes/no questions.

II. Report Sample

This report contains data collected on Cohort 1, Year 8. The data include a high-risk control sample (n=155) and a normative sample (n = 387) for a total n = 463, including overlap. Seventy-two of the 463 are missing responses for the entire Neighborhood Questionnaire, including 64 from the normative group (10 from Durham, 18 from Washington, 13 from Pennsylvania, and 23 from Nashville), and 22 from the control group (3 from Durham, 7 from Nashville, 5 from

Pennsylvania, and 7 from Washington).

III. Scaling

The Neighborhood Questionnaire has three subscales: the Neighborhood Safety Subscale (items 1, 6, 10, 11, and 12), the Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale (items 3, 4, 5, and 13), and the Public Services Subscale (items 8 and 9). A previous analysis determined that items 2, 7, and 15 should not be included on any subscale, and that items 14 and 16, which are dichotomous, should also be excluded from the subscales.

The ordering of responses in items 10 and 11 was reversed before scoring. Raw scores for items 1 to 13 were converted to a ten-point scale. All subscales were scored by taking the mean of non-missing item responses and multiplying by the number of items on the scale. Subscales with more than 50 percent of their responses missing were not scored. Using a ten-point response scale, Neighborhood Safety has a possible maximum score of 50 points, Neighborhood Social Involvement has a maximum of 40, and Public Services has a maximum of 20.

The alpha coefficients for the normative sample and control sample are:

	Normative Sample	Control Sample
Neighborhood Safety	0.81	0.76
Neighborhood Social Involvement	0.77	0.72
Public Services	0.34	0.36

The following table shows the frequency of responses to Item 14 (Does your neighborhood have clubs/groups?) and Item 15 (How many groups do you belong to?). Item 14 was recoded such that Yes equals 1 and No equals 0, while item 15 was recoded such that, among parents in neighborhoods without clubs/organizations, item 15 is coded as 0 rather than missing.

Table of p8pnq14r by p8pnq15r							
p8pnq14r(Recoded-Any groups in neighborhood)	p8pnq15r(Recoded-Involved in how many groups)						Total
Frequency Percent Row Pct Col Pct	0	1	2	3	4	5	
0	255 66.06 99.61 78.70	a) 1 0.26 0.39 2.17	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	256 66.32
1	69 17.88 53.08 21.30	45 11.66 34.62 97.83	8 2.07 6.15 100.00	5 1.30 3.85 100.00	2 0.52 1.54 100.00	1 0.26 0.77 100.00	130 33.68
Total	324 83.94	46 11.92	8 2.07	5 1.30	2 0.52	1 0.26	386 100.00
Frequency Missing = 5							

a) One respondents answered “No” for item 14, but “1” for item 15. These responses are probably errors.

The next table shows the frequency of responses to Item 16 (Do you hold an office or post in any neighborhood group?) and Item 15 (How many groups do you belong to?). Among parents in neighborhoods without clubs/organizations, the items were recoded as 0 rather than missing.

Table of p8pnq16r by p8pnq15r							
p8pnq16r(Recoded-Hold an official position in groups)	p8pnq15r(Recoded-Involved in how many groups)						Total
Frequency Percent Row Pct Col Pct	0	1	2	3	4	5	
0	311 79.74 87.85 94.82	35 8.97 9.89 76.09	4 1.03 1.13 50.00	3 0.77 0.85 60.00	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	1 0.26 0.28 100.00	354 90.77
1	a) 17 4.36 47.22 5.18	11 2.82 30.56 23.91	4 1.03 11.11 50.00	2 0.51 5.56 40.00	2 0.51 5.56 100.00	0 0.00 0.00 0.00	36 9.23
Total	328 84.10	46 11.79	8 2.05	5 1.28	2 0.51	1 0.26	390 100.00
Frequency Missing = 1							

a) 17 respondents answered "yes" for item 16, but 0 for item 15. This value could represent errors in responses to item 16.

IV. Differences Between Groups

T-tests of means for the normative sample and the high-risk control sample yielded the following results:

	Normative Sample		Control Sample		DF	t Value	Pr > t
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD			
Neighborhood Safety Subscale	36.07	10.74	35.69	10.52	389	-0.33	0.7391
Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale	17.22	10.12	15.55	9.82	389	-1.56	0.1191
Public Services Subscale	14.25	4.50	14.26	4.63	389	0.02	0.9836
Length of time in neighborhood	6.32	3.37	5.86	3.72	388	-1.21	0.2269
Garbage collection satisfaction	8.24	2.64	7.91	2.99	386	-1.09	0.2770

V. Recommendations for Use

T-tests of means for three subscales and two independent items (2 and 7) show no significant differences between the normative and the high-risk control groups for any of the subscales, for Item 2, or Item 7. The Public Services subscale shows low alpha values for both the normative group ($\alpha = .34$) and the control group ($\alpha = .36$). These low values suggest that the Public Services subscale does not effectively measure the intended construct. For the normative group (but not for the control group), the Neighborhood Safety Subscale is slightly negatively skewed. Analysts should also be aware that items on the Neighborhood Questionnaire contain several different response scales and response metrics.

VI. Item and Scale Means and SDs

Item Means and Standard Deviations – Neighborhood Questionnaire

Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
p8pnq1r	Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood	133	7.49	2.80	0.00	10.00
p8pnq2r	Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents	133	5.86	3.72	0.00	10.00
p8pnq3r	Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting	133	4.74	3.55	0.00	10.00
p8pnq4r	Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well	133	4.34	3.20	0.00	10.00
p8pnq5r	Rescaled-How often do you get together	133	2.92	3.24	0.00	10.00
p8pnq6r	Rescaled-Local police protection	133	6.99	2.78	0.00	10.00
p8pnq7r	Rescaled-Local garbage collection	131	7.91	2.99	0.00	10.00
p8pnq8r	Rescaled-Local schools	132	7.35	2.72	0.00	10.00
p8pnq9r	Rescaled-Public transportation	129	6.87	3.19	0.00	10.00
p8pnq10r	Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary	133	6.71	2.74	0.00	10.00
p8pnq11r	Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs	133	6.79	3.66	0.00	10.00
p8pnq12r	Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship	132	7.70	2.61	0.00	10.00
p8pnq13r	Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood	133	3.56	3.29	0.00	10.00

Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
p8pnq1r	Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood	323	7.54	2.83	0.00	10.00
p8pnq2r	Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents	322	6.18	3.49	0.00	10.00
p8pnq3r	Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting	322	4.95	3.41	0.00	10.00
p8pnq4r	Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well	323	4.88	3.29	0.00	10.00
p8pnq5r	Rescaled-How often do you get together	323	3.26	3.27	0.00	10.00
p8pnq6r	Rescaled-Local police protection	321	7.05	2.82	0.00	10.00
p8pnq7r	Rescaled-Local garbage collection	321	8.09	2.80	0.00	10.00
p8pnq8r	Rescaled-Local schools	321	7.24	2.77	0.00	10.00
p8pnq9r	Rescaled-Public transportation	312	7.04	3.03	0.00	10.00
p8pnq10r	Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary	319	6.85	2.60	0.00	10.00
p8pnq11r	Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs	323	6.77	3.56	0.00	10.00
p8pnq12r	Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship	315	7.79	2.60	0.00	10.00
p8pnq13r	Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood	323	3.97	3.32	0.00	10.00

Subscale Means and Standard Deviations – Neighborhood Questionnaire

Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
NHQ8saf	Y8 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale	133	35.69	10.52	0.00	50.00
NHQ8soc	Y8 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale	133	15.55	9.82	0.00	38.00
NHQ8pub	Y8 NQ Public Service Subscale	133	14.26	4.63	0.00	20.00

Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
NHQ8saf	Y8 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale	323	35.99	10.89	0.00	50.00
NHQ8soc	Y8 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale	323	17.06	10.20	0.00	40.00
NHQ8pub	Y8 NQ Public Service Subscale	323	14.29	4.59	0.00	20.00

VII. Item and Scale Correlations

**All Subscales
Combined Normative and Control Samples**

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations					
	NHQ8saf	NHQ8soc	NHQ8pub	p8pnq2r	p8pnq7r
NHQ8saf Y8 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale	1.000 391	0.060 0.233 391	0.228 0.000 391	0.028 0.580 390	0.410 0.000 388
NHQ8soc Y8 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale	0.060 0.233 391	1.000 391	0.055 0.274 391	0.300 0.000 390	0.063 0.217 388
NHQ8pub Y8 NQ Public Service Subscale	0.228 0.000 391	0.055 0.274 391	1.000 391	0.035 0.494 390	0.161 0.001 388
p8pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents	0.028 0.580 390	0.300 0.000 390	0.035 0.494 390	1.000 390	0.033 0.511 387
p8pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection	0.410 0.000 388	0.063 0.217 388	0.161 0.001 388	0.033 0.511 387	1.000 388

Item Correlations
Combined Normative and Control Samples

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations							
	p8pnq1r	p8pnq2r	p8pnq3r	p8pnq4r	p8pnq5r	p8pnq6r	p8pnq7r
p8pnq1r Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood	1.000 391	0.148 0.003 390	-0.000 0.995 390	0.209 0.000 391	0.074 0.146 391	0.451 0.000 389	0.357 0.000 388
p8pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents	0.148 0.003 390	1.000 390	0.216 0.000 389	0.284 0.000 390	0.172 0.001 390	-0.031 0.541 388	0.033 0.511 387
p8pnq3r Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting	-0.000 0.995 390	0.216 0.000 389	1.000 390	0.379 0.000 390	0.337 0.000 390	-0.065 0.200 388	0.024 0.641 387
p8pnq4r Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well	0.209 0.000 391	0.284 0.000 390	0.379 0.000 390	1.000 391	0.542 0.000 391	0.051 0.320 389	0.127 0.013 388
p8pnq5r Rescaled-How often do you get together	0.074 0.146 391	0.172 0.001 390	0.337 0.000 390	0.542 0.000 391	1.000 391	-0.076 0.137 389	-0.049 0.338 388
p8pnq6r Rescaled-Local police protection	0.451 0.000 389	-0.031 0.541 388	-0.065 0.200 388	0.051 0.320 389	-0.076 0.137 389	1.000 389	0.363 0.000 386
p8pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection	0.357 0.000 388	0.033 0.511 387	0.024 0.641 387	0.127 0.013 388	-0.049 0.338 388	0.363 0.000 386	1.000 388
p8pnq8r Rescaled-Local schools	0.218 0.000 388	-0.018 0.721 387	0.029 0.572 387	-0.006 0.908 388	-0.020 0.691 388	0.251 0.000 386	0.126 0.013 385
p8pnq9r Rescaled-Public transportation	0.014 0.779 377	0.069 0.182 377	0.096 0.062 376	0.070 0.175 377	0.033 0.523 377	0.055 0.291 375	0.130 0.012 376
p8pnq10r Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary	0.444 0.000 387	-0.031 0.539 386	-0.073 0.151 387	0.057 0.261 387	-0.021 0.676 387	0.429 0.000 385	0.215 0.000 384
p8pnq11r Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs	0.517 0.000 391	-0.030 0.555 390	-0.104 0.040 390	0.031 0.542 391	-0.106 0.036 391	0.412 0.000 389	0.272 0.000 388
p8pnq12r Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship	0.443 0.000 383	0.073 0.154 382	0.025 0.623 382	0.186 0.000 383	0.009 0.861 383	0.492 0.000 381	0.333 0.000 380
p8pnq13r Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood	0.233 0.000 391	0.236 0.000 390	0.358 0.000 390	0.557 0.000 391	0.435 0.000 391	0.057 0.262 389	0.092 0.071 388

Item Correlations (continued)
Combined Normative and Control Samples

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations						
	p8pnq8r	p8pnq9r	p8pnq10r	p8pnq11r	p8pnq12r	p8pnq13r
p8pnq1r Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood	0.218 0.000 388	0.014 0.779 377	0.444 0.000 387	0.517 0.000 391	0.443 0.000 383	0.233 0.000 391
p8pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents	-0.018 0.721 387	0.069 0.182 377	-0.031 0.539 386	-0.030 0.555 390	0.073 0.154 382	0.236 0.000 390
p8pnq3r Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting	0.029 0.572 387	0.096 0.062 376	-0.073 0.151 387	-0.104 0.040 390	0.025 0.623 382	0.358 0.000 390
p8pnq4r Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well	-0.006 0.908 388	0.070 0.175 377	0.057 0.261 387	0.031 0.542 391	0.186 0.000 383	0.557 0.000 391
p8pnq5r Rescaled-How often do you get together	-0.020 0.691 388	0.033 0.523 377	-0.021 0.676 387	-0.106 0.036 391	0.009 0.861 383	0.435 0.000 391
p8pnq6r Rescaled-Local police protection	0.251 0.000 386	0.055 0.291 375	0.429 0.000 385	0.412 0.000 389	0.492 0.000 381	0.057 0.262 389
p8pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection	0.126 0.013 385	0.130 0.012 376	0.215 0.000 384	0.272 0.000 388	0.333 0.000 380	0.092 0.071 388
p8pnq8r Rescaled-Local schools	1.000 388	0.183 0.000 374	0.208 0.000 384	0.184 0.000 388	0.238 0.000 380	-0.040 0.433 388
p8pnq9r Rescaled-Public transportation	0.183 0.000 374	1.000 377	-0.017 0.751 373	0.031 0.548 377	0.153 0.003 370	0.055 0.289 377
p8pnq10r Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary	0.208 0.000 384	-0.017 0.751 373	1.000 387	0.482 0.000 387	0.339 0.000 380	0.050 0.330 387
p8pnq11r Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs	0.184 0.000 388	0.031 0.548 377	0.482 0.000 387	1.000 391	0.403 0.000 383	0.069 0.176 391
p8pnq12r Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship	0.238 0.000 380	0.153 0.003 370	0.339 0.000 380	0.403 0.000 383	1.000 383	0.186 0.000 383
p8pnq13r Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood	-0.040 0.433 388	0.055 0.289 377	0.050 0.330 387	0.069 0.176 391	0.186 0.000 383	1.000 391