,

Financial Stress Questionnaire
Grade 4 /Year 5

Fast Track Project Technical Report
Anne Corrigan
March 21, 2003

Table of Contents

Citation

Instrument
        Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1994). *Financial Stress Questionnaire.* Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, http://www.fasttrackproject.org

Reports
        Corrigan, A. (2003). *Financial Stress Questionnaire, Grade 4 /Year 5* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, http://www.fasttrackproject.org[1]

        Maumary-Gremaud, A. (1997). *Financial Stress Measure* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Durham, NC: Duke University.[2]

Data Sources

Unscored: P5U
Scored: FSI5

I.   Scale Description

The Financial Stress Questionnaire is a nine-item instrument, created for the Fast Track Project, that explores sources of household spending and adequacy of funds for paying bills. The Questionnaire is administered to parents.

The spending sources are: home, clothing, furniture, car, food, medical care, and leisure. Seven items contain statements about the spending sources; for example, "We have enough money to afford the kind of car we need." Responses to these items are coded on a five-point scale and include: "Strongly Agree (1)," "Agree (2)," "Neutral/Mixed (3)," "Disagree (4)," and "Strongly Disagree (5)."

The two remaining items ask the parent if household funds are enough for monthly financial needs. Responses for one of these items ("monthly difficulty in paying bills") are coded using five points, ranging from "A great deal of difficulty (1)" to "No difficulty at all (5)." The second item: "Generally, at the end of each month, do you end up with…" has fill-in-the-blank responses, coded using four points: "Not enough…(1)," "Just enough…(2)," "Some money left over (3)," and "More than enough left over (4)."

---

[1] This report.
[2] Report for Year 4, Cohort 1.

,

II.   Report Sample

This report contains data collected on Cohort 1, Year 5. The data include a high-risk control sample (n=155) and a normative sample (n = 387) for a total N = 463, including overlap. Of the 463 subjects, 51 are missing all responses, including 37 from the normative group (6 from Durham, 9 from Washington, 12 from Pennsylvania, and 10 from Nashville), and 14 from the control group (3 from Durham, 1 from Nashville, 6 from Pennsylvania, and 4 from Washington), with overlap between the normative and control groups. None of these measures was used in the analyses.

III.   Scaling

The Financial Stress Questionnaire contains no subscales. A score is calculated as the mean of the seven spending source items times 7. Item scores for the two questions that explore adequacy of monthly funds are reported separately. The alpha coefficients for the normative sample and control samples are:

	Normative Sample	Control Sample
Spending Source Score	0.90	0.89

IV.   Differences Between Groups

T-tests of means on the Spending Source Score, Item 8, and Item 9 yielded the following results for the normative and control groups:

Comparison of Means for Normative and Control for Continuous Scales and Items								
		Normative		Control				
Variable	Label	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	DF	t Value	Pr > |t|
fsi5sss	**FSI5 Spending Source Score**	2.65	0.90	2.94	0.90	418	3.06	0.0023
P5U8	**Difficulty paying bills**	3.56	1.20	3.12	1.14	418	-3.57	0.0004
P5U9	**How much at end of each month**	2.42	0.82	2.28	0.80	418	-1.57	0.1180

V.   Recommendations for Use

T-tests of means show significant differences between the normative and control groups for the Spending Source Score and for Item 8: Difficulty Paying Bills. Alpha coefficients for the Spending Source Score suggests that this score is useful. Researchers should note that the order in which responses for Item 8 and Item 9 are coded is in the opposite direction from Items 1-7.

,

VI. Item and Scale Means and SDs

Descriptive Statistics for Normative Sample						
Variable	Label	Mean	N	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
fsi5sss	FSI5 Spending Source Score	2.69	350	0.90	1.00	5.00
P5U1	Home we would like	3.11	350	1.26	1.00	5.00
P5U2	Clothing we should have	2.59	350	1.07	1.00	5.00
P5U3	Furniture we should have	2.77	350	1.11	1.00	5.00
P5U4	Car we need	2.99	350	1.24	1.00	5.00
P5U5	Food we should have	2.03	348	0.90	1.00	5.00
P5U6	Medical care we should have	2.42	350	1.19	1.00	5.00
P5U7	Leisure and Fun activities	2.89	350	1.13	1.00	5.00
P5U8	Difficulty paying bills	3.48	350	1.19	1.00	5.00
P5U9	How much at end of each month	2.39	350	0.82	1.00	4.00

Descriptive Statistics for Control Sample						
variable	Label	Mean	N	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
fsi5sss	FSI5 Spending Source Score	2.94	141	0.90	1.00	5.00
P5U1	Home we would like	3.40	141	1.33	1.00	5.00
P5U2	Clothing we should have	2.95	141	1.12	1.00	5.00
P5U3	Furniture we should have	2.91	141	1.14	1.00	5.00
P5U4	Car we need	3.25	141	1.23	1.00	5.00
P5U5	Food we should have	2.25	141	0.96	1.00	5.00
P5U6	Medical care we should have	2.70	141	1.20	1.00	5.00
P5U7	Leisure and Fun activities	3.09	141	1.13	1.00	5.00
P5U8	Difficulty paying bills	3.12	141	1.14	1.00	5.00
P5U9	How much at end of each month	2.28	141	0.80	1.00	4.00

VII. Item and Subscale Correlations

Financial Stress Questionnaire
Correlations for Items 8, 9, and Spending Source Score
Combined Normative and Control Sample

Pearson Correlation Coefficients, N = 420 Prob > |r| under H0: Rho=0			
	fsi5sss	P5U8	P5U9
fsi5sss FSI5 Spending Source Score	1.000	-0.575 0.000	-0.546 0.000
P5U8 Difficulty paying bills	-0.575 0.000	1.000	0.526 0.000
P5U9 How much at end of each month	-0.546 0.000	0.526 0.000	1.000

Financial Stress Questionnaire – Item Correlations
Combined Normative and Control Sample

Pearson Correlation Coefficients, N = 418 Prob > |r| under H0: Rho=0							
	P5U1	P5U2	P5U3	P5U4	P5U5	P5U6	P5U7
P5U1 Home we would like	1.000	0.681 0.000	0.652 0.000	0.629 0.000	0.455 0.000	0.465 0.000	0.542 0.000
P5U2 Clothing we should have	0.681 0.000	1.000	0.722 0.000	0.582 0.000	0.631 0.000	0.562 0.000	0.658 0.000
P5U3 Furniture we should have	0.652 0.000	0.722 0.000	1.000	0.633 0.000	0.522 0.000	0.493 0.000	0.611 0.000
P5U4 Car we need	0.629 0.000	0.582 0.000	0.633 0.000	1.000	0.431 0.000	0.464 0.000	0.525 0.000
P5U5 Food we should have	0.455 0.000	0.631 0.000	0.522 0.000	0.431 0.000	1.000	0.595 0.000	0.572 0.000
P5U6 Medical care we need	0.465 0.000	0.562 0.000	0.493 0.000	0.464 0.000	0.595 0.000	1.000	0.595 0.000
P5U7 Leisure activities	0.542 0.000	0.658 0.000	0.611 0.000	0.525 0.000	0.572 0.000	0.595 0.000	1.000