MEASUREMENT & TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS OF COMPAS REENTRY SCALES

March 30, 2009
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL RECIDIVISM RISK</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLENT RECIDIVISM RISK</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMINAL THINKING OBSERVATION</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT VIOLENCE</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPRESSION/MENTAL HEALTH</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EARLY ONSET</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY CRIMINALITY</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GANG INDICATORS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY OF NON-COMPLIANCE</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY OF VIOLENCE</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE GOALS/AIMLESSN</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW EMPATHY</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW FAMILY SUPPORT</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW SELF-EFFICACY/OPTIMISM</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEGATIVE SOCIAL COGNITIONS</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRISON MISCONDUCT</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REENTRY COGNITIVE BEHAVIORIAL</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REENTRY EMPLOYMENT EXPECTATIONS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Measurement and Treatment Implications of COMPAS Reentry Scales

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REENTRY FINANCIAL ......................................................... 16
REENTRY RESIDENTIAL INSTABILITY .................................. 16
REENTRY SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT ....................................... 17
REENTRY SOCIAL ISOLATION ............................................. 17
REENTRY SUBSTANCE ABUSE ........................................... 18

GENDER-RESPONSIVE SCALES
WC EMPLOYMENT/FINANCIAL ........................................ 19
WC EDUCATIONAL STRENGTHS ........................................ 20
WC HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS .................................... 20
WC MENTAL HEALTH: CURRENT SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION OR ANXIETY ........... 21
WC MENTAL HEALTH: CURRENT SYMPTOMS OF PSYCHOSIS OR SUICIDE .................. 21
WC EXPERIENCE(S) OF ABUSE AS A CHILD ................................ 22
WC EXPERIENCE(S) OF ABUSE AS AN ADULT ......................... 22
WC PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT ........................................... 22
WC SUPPORT FROM FAMILY OF ORIGIN ................................ 23
WC SELF-EFFICACY ......................................................... 24
WC RELATIONSHIP DYSFUNCTION ....................................... 25
WC PARENTAL STRESS ...................................................... 26
WC CHILD ABUSE SURVEY ............................................... 27
WC ADULT VICTIM SURVEY ............................................... 28
WC ANGER/HOSTILITY ..................................................... 29
WC CONFLICT WITH FAMILY OF ORIGIN ................................ 29
WC HOUSING SAFETY ...................................................... 30
INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide users of COMPAS Reentry with a meaningful and practical understanding of each scale incorporated into the assessment. COMPAS Reentry is comprised of a total of forty-one scales, including three higher order scales (i.e., scales that use items from other scales that crosscut several domains) and seventeen women specific need scales. Each scale included in the COMPAS Reentry assessment is listed below with an explanation of the themes and constructs measured, the treatment implications for high scores on the scale, and a listing of the items or questions in the assessment that are used to score the scale.

The COMPAS Reentry assessment is designed to be configurable for the user at various decision points within the local criminal justice system and with various populations (i.e., women, men, institutional, community). Users may choose scale sets (or groups of scales) relevant to their needs for assessing an offender at various stages of the criminal justice process. For example, a client may choose to use the Violence and Recidivism scales to “triage” their caseloads by risk of re-offense and violence, and choose to only complete the full assessment (i.e., all scales) on medium to high risk offenders to gain a holistic view of the offender in order to appropriately address supervision and treatment needs for rehabilitation. In addition, there are need scales available that are validated specifically for women, so scale sets can be configured for men or women.

This configuration option makes cross-referencing by item number difficult because each time a scale set is altered the item number for each question changes. For this reason, item numbers are not used to identify items from the questionnaire for each scale in the following tables. If the user creates a scale set with only select scales for an assessment, the same items will be used to compute the score for the scale, but the item numbers for each item will vary.
**SCALE NAME:** GENERAL RECIDIVISM RISK  
*Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10*

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The primary factors making up this scale involve prior criminal history, criminal associates, drug involvement, and early indicators of juvenile delinquency problems. Each of these risk factors are well known predictors of recidivism.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Percentile scores 1-4 may be regarded as low risk since they are clearly lower than “average”. Decile Scores from 5-7 may be regarded as medium risk since they are in the middle of the distribution and represent cases that are very close to “average” for the total population of the agency. Decile Scores of 8 and above may be regarded as high risk since they are in the top third of the distribution.

Key stakeholders for each agency and/or community will need to find their “comfort levels” (risk decile score) for each risk scale. Our experience has shown, for example, that rural community criminal justice systems in general have a lower comfort level (tolerance) for risk of violence or recidivism than urban criminal justice systems. In addition, it is likely that the cutting point (community placement comfort level) for risk of violence will be less than that for the risk of recidivating or risk of flight/FTA. These two scales in turn may have lower cutting points (risk thresholds) than the risk of community non-compliance (technical rules violations).

The supervision implications of the four risk potential scales will be driven by each individual’s highest risk factor score e.g. if the selected cutting point for high risk is 8 and above, those respondents who score 8 and above, will be supervised at levels agreed by policy for such offenders. The exact degree of supervision and control may be influenced also by the case management resources available to each local agency, as well as contact type and frequency associated with each. These can only be established by each local agency. Recording outcomes data over time for each supervision level by risk level will assist in determining the optimum supervision level for each case.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- Criminal Involvement Scale
- Vocation/Education Scale (from Adult COMPAS)
- Drug Problem Component Items
### SCALE NAME: VIOLENT RECIDIVISM RISK (Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10)

### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
This scale uses a set of items covering a history of juvenile violence, history of assaultive offenses, history of weapons offenses, history of injury, a tendency to fail while on probation/parole, and affiliating with criminal peers. Thus the central themes involve history of violence, current violence, criminal associates, and probation/parole failure.

### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
Percentile scores 1-4 may be regarded as **low risk** since they are clearly lower than “average”. Decile Scores from 5-7 may be regarded as medium risk since they are in the middle of the distribution and represent cases that are very close to “average” for the total population of the agency. Decile Scores of 8 and above may be regarded as **high risk** since they are in the top third of the distribution. Please see the “Violence Risk Explanation” document for further discussion of the scoring for the Violence Risk scale, especially regarding cases that appear to have an inflated risk of violence score.

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### SCALE ITEMS
- Violence History Scale
- Non-Compliance History Scale
- Vocation/Education Scale (from Adult COMPAS)
### SCALE NAME: CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT  (Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale is defined by the extent of the offenders’ involvement in the criminal justice system. A high score indicates a person with a history of multiple arrests, multiple convictions, and prior incarcerations. The items centrally defining this scale are the number of arrests and number of convictions. A low score identifies the person who is either a first-time arrest or has minimal criminal history. Thus the central meaning of this scale is the extensiveness of the criminal history.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Scores of 8 and greater suggest an extensive criminal history. High scores on criminal history scales will be linked to certain patterns of risk factors.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- How many times has this person been arrested before as an adult or juvenile (criminal arrests only)?
- How many times has this person been sentenced to jail for 30 days or more? __0   __1   __2   __3   __4   __5+
- How many times has this person been sentenced (new commitment) to state or federal prison? __0   __1   __2   __3   __4   __5+
- How many times has this person been sentenced to probation as an adult?    __0     __1     __2     __3     __4    __5+

### SCALE NAME: CRIMINAL THINKING OBSERVATION  (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale brings together several cognitions that serve to justify, support, or provide rationalizations for the person’s criminal behavior. These dimensions include moral justification, refusal to accept responsibility, blaming the victim, and rationalizations (excuses) that minimize the seriousness and consequences of their criminal activity. The following are examples: drug use is harmless because it doesn’t hurt anybody else, criminal behavior can be justified by social pressures, stealing is permissible because those stolen from won’t notice or don’t need the items stolen, etc.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Scores of 7 and above may suggest a need for cognitive restructuring intervention as part of the case management plan. Failure may be high if the offender continues to excuse and rationalize his behaviors. A high score in this scale may also indicate a need for close supervision. For very high scoring cases, cognitive interventions, coupled with substance abuse treatment (for example), may best begin in a controlled setting that is separated from all of the community/peer distractions. This might be sequenced prior to other community placement/probation program conditions.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
Based on Parole or corrections officer observations, the inmate appears to: (Check all that apply)
- Minimize wrongdoing
- Blame victim/others
- Blame the criminal justice system
- Think conviction/sentence is unfair
- Excuse own behavior
- Reinterpret the facts to own benefit
- Justify behavior as being the only option
- None
### CURRENT VIOLENCE
*Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10*

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This short scale measures the degree of violence in the present offense. The central item that defines the scale is whether the present offense is an assaultive felony. Other key items involve whether or not a weapon was used, if there was injury to a person, etc.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
A high score indicates an assaultive offense with a probable victim(s). This may bring victim notification, restraining orders, etc. into the case plan.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- List all current charges by checking the appropriate categories.
- Do any current offenses involve family violence? ___Yes ___No
- What category represents the most serious current offense? ___Misdemeanor ___Non Violent Felony ___Violent Felony

### DEPRESSION/MENTAL HEALTH
*Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10*

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
Large percentages of offenders are characterized by mental health problems. Depression, anxiety and treatment for prior mental health issues are common indicators. The present short screener focuses on a history of depression, anxiety and several other mental health history indicators. It is not meant to replace more elaborated mental health assessments and is not designed to diagnose any specific diagnostic category or to prescribe treatment. It simple provides a general summary of a prior history of mental health problems. The items in this short scale address prior attempts at suicide or treatment for depression, anxiety and current or prior prescriptions or use of psychotropic drugs.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
A high score on this scale may indicate the need for a more in depth mental health assessment.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- Was inmate assessed as having mental health needs during the current incarceration? ___Yes ___No
- Level of Care: (check all that apply)
  - Acute/Inpatient
  - Residential Treatment
  - Outpatient Treatment
- Type of Need:
  - Depression No Yes
  - Suicidal No Yes
  - Anxiety No Yes
  - Bipolar No Yes
  - Schizophrenia No Yes
  - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder No Yes
- Were psychotropic medications ever prescribed during this incarceration? ___Yes ___No
- Is the inmate currently prescribed psychotropic medications? ___Yes ___No
- Does the inmate have any history of suicide attempts? ___Yes ___No
**SCALE NAME:** EARLY ONSET  
(Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The items in this scale focus on when an offender’s criminal behavior began and the seriousness of the crimes committed by an offender as a juvenile.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
High scores in this scale indicate an early age at first arrest coupled with multiple arrests as a juvenile and/or juvenile violence and/or juvenile incarceration. This may indicate a need for cognitive interventions to address poor socialization issues.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- What was the age of this person when he/she was first arrested as an adult or juvenile (criminal arrests only)?
- How many prior juvenile felony offense arrests? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5+
- How many prior juvenile violent felony offense arrests? ___0 ___1 ___2+
- How many prior commitments to a juvenile institution? ___0 ___1 ___2+

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**SCALE NAME:** FAMILY CRIMINALITY  
(Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale assesses the degree to which the person’s family members (mother, father, and siblings) have been involved in criminal activity, drug use or alcohol abuse. The items covered: number of arrests of each family member, whether they have been in jail or prison, and whether the parent or parental figure has a history of alcohol or drug problems.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
A high score in this scale may indicate the need to minimize or structure the contact with certain members of the family to minimize adverse sibling or parental influence and/or exposure to inappropriate substance use. The score may further assist in understanding the clients own criminal involvement.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- Was your father (or father figure who principally raised you) ever arrested? ___Yes ___No
- Was your mother (or mother figure who principally raised you) ever arrested? ___Yes ___No
- Were your brothers or sisters ever arrested? ___Yes ___No
- Did a parent or parent figure who raised you have a drug or alcohol problem? ___Yes ___No
- Was one of your parents (or parent figure who raised you) ever sent to jail or prison? ___Yes ___No
**SCALE NAME: GANG INDICATORS (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale measures gang involvement by the offender. The scale includes the offender’s gang involvement prior to and during incarceration.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
High scores indicate gang involvement which may need to be factored into treatment and case plan strategies.

**SCALE ITEMS**
- Suspected or admitted gang membership pre-incarceration. ___No ___Yes ___Unsure
- Disciplinary action during incarceration (all active cases) for gang type activity or affiliation. ___No ___Yes ___Unsure
- Is the inmate currently identified as gang affiliated? ___No ___STG I ___STG II

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**SCALE NAME: HISTORY OF NON-COMPLIANCE (Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10)**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale focuses on the number of times the offender has failed when he was placed in a community status. The central defining item is the number of times probation or parole has been suspended or revoked. Related items include the number of times the offender has failed to appear for a court hearing, the number of times a new charge/arrest or technical rules violation has occurred while on probation, parole and prior community corrections program placement failures (i.e. electronic monitoring, community service work, day reporting, etc.) Thus the scale involves the risk of technical rules violation failure leading to revocation of probation, pretrial release, or community corrections placement status.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Scores of 8 and above indicate a high risk of rules infractions, or technical violation if placed in the community. These offenders have failed multiple times in the past and have other characteristics which put them at risk of non-compliance. A highly structured supervision and case management plan may be in order.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Was this person on probation or parole at the time of the current offense? ___Probation ___Parole ___Both ___Neither
- How many times has this person’s parole been violated? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5+
- How many times has this person been returned to prison while on parole? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5+
- How many times has this person had a new charge/arrest while on probation? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3+
- How many times has this person’s probation been violated or revoked? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5+
### SCALE NAME: HISTORY OF VIOLENCE (Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10)

#### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
The aim of this scale is to reflect the seriousness and extent of violence in an offender’s criminal history. It focuses on the frequency with which violent felony offenses have occurred, the use of weapons, and the frequency of injuries to victims. The frequency of several specific violent offenses are also included in the scale e.g. robbery, homicide, and assaultive offenses.

#### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
Multiple violent episodes may suggest the need for more detailed psychological evaluation. Additionally, if the offender is to be released into the community, requirements regarding victim notification may be important. Anger management training and problem-solving skills may be relevant. Programs regarding social cognition to reduce feelings of hostility etc. may also be relevant.

#### SCALE ITEMS:
- How many prior juvenile violent felony offense arrests? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many times has this person been arrested for a felony property offense that includes an element of violence? ___0 ___1 ___2 ___3 ___4 ___5+  
- How many prior murder/voluntary manslaughter offense arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many prior murder/voluntary manslaughter offense arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many prior murder/voluntary manslaughter offense arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many prior family violence offense arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many prior sex offense (with force) arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- How many prior weapons offense arrests as an adult? ___0 ___1 ___2+  
- Has this person ever received serious or administrative disciplinary infractions for fighting/threatening other inmates or staff? ___No ___Yes

### SCALE NAME: LIFE GOALS/AIMLESS (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

#### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
Positive commitments, life goals and future aspirations are major components of the concept of “attachment bonds” in the social control theory of crime. The positive aspirations, attachment bonds, and commitment and interest in a job of low scoring offenders may be contrasted with lifestyles characterized by idleness, boredom and an absence of positive goals found in high scoring offenders.

#### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
A high score on this scale may indicate the need for cognitive intervention to develop skills associated with goal setting, developing aspirations for the future (work, family, etc.) and developing an interest in pro social activities.

#### SCALE ITEMS:
- How difficult will it be for you to find things that interest you? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult  
- How difficult will it be for you to discover positive goals or purposes for your life? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult  
- I have found a type of job or career that I like. ___Mostly Disagree ___Uncertain/Don’t know ___Mostly Agree  
- When I think of my future, my life feels empty and without meaning. ___Mostly Disagree ___Uncertain/Don’t know ___Mostly Agree  
- I have found a central purpose for my life. ___Mostly Disagree ___Uncertain/Don’t know ___Mostly Agree  
- I plan to attend religious activities regularly when I am released. ___Mostly Disagree ___Uncertain/Don’t know ___Mostly Agree  
- I have found a religion or spiritual path that I truly believe in. ___Mostly Disagree ___Uncertain/Don’t know ___Mostly Agree
### Scale Name: Low Empathy (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

#### How Is This Scale Measured:
The items in this scale address the ability to feel sympathy and to understand the feelings of other people. Low empathy is a sub-factor within the more general domain of criminal personality and has been linked to a variety of criminal and violent behaviors.

#### Notes and Treatment Implications:
Training in perspective taking, understanding the damage and hurt caused by the offender’s actions, and general training in the area of social maturity development would be implied. Low empathy also has been linked to the general field of social maturity.

#### Scale Items:
- When a friend is having hard times, I find myself thinking about that person.  
  ___Strongly Disagree  ___Disagree  ___Not Sure  ___Agree  ___Strongly Agree
- I am the kind of person who cares about other people’s feelings.  
  ___Strongly Disagree  ___Disagree  ___Not Sure  ___Agree  ___Strongly Agree
- I would describe myself as a pretty soft-hearted person.  
  ___Strongly Disagree  ___Disagree  ___Not Sure  ___Agree  ___Strongly Agree
- I often feel sad when I see someone crying.  
  ___Strongly Disagree  ___Disagree  ___Not Sure  ___Agree  ___Strongly Agree
- I don’t worry about other people’s feelings because they should take care of themselves.  
  ___Strongly Disagree  ___Disagree  ___Not Sure  ___Agree  ___Strongly Agree

### Scale Name: Low Family Support (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

#### How Is This Scale Measured:
This is a simple screening scale assessing family support. It includes items such as: degree of family contact, getting along with family, degree support/reliance on family and so on.

#### Notes and Treatment Implications:
The case management strategy may be to see if family bonds can be strengthened or reestablished if appropriate.

#### Scale Items:
- Anticipate family support upon release:  
  Intends to stay with family when released  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unsure  
  Estranged from family  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unsure  
  Family members visited periodically during incarceration  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unsure  
  Inmate believes other relatives are supportive  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unsure  
  Other  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unsure  
- Is there evidence of positive family support?  ___No  ___Yes  ___Unclear
**SCALE NAME:** LOW SELF-EFFICACY/OPTIMISM  
(Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
In the context of prisoner reentry this scale addresses the confidence that each offender feels in his ability to deal with the various challenges of reentering the community e.g. avoiding high risk places and people, managing money, maintaining a place to live, finding pro-social friends, getting and maintaining a job, and so forth.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Persons who lack such optimism or self efficacy appear less likely to be able to cope successfully with the various challenges of reentry. Treatment implications would focus primarily upon building skills, confidence and optimism on the part of the re-entering prisoner. Thus, skill-building as well as cognitive interventions would be implied.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- How difficult will it be for you to manage your money? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to find people that you can trust? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to avoid risky situations? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to learn better skills to get a job? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to support yourself financially without using illegal ways to get money? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to get along with people? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to avoid spending too much time with people that could get you into trouble? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to avoid risky sexual behavior? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to avoid slipping back into illegal activities? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to deal with loneliness? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to avoid places or situations that may get you into trouble? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to learn to be careful about choices you make? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to find people to do things with? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to learn to avoid saying things to people that you later regret? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
### SCALE NAME: NEGATIVE SOCIAL COGNITIONS  
(Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale brings together several concepts that indicate an offenders’ negative view of social interactions or relationships. It includes probes into sentiments of mistrust of others and of society, unfairness of life in general, and inability to control anger.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Scores of 7 and above may suggest a need for cognitive restructuring intervention as part of the case management plan. A high score in this scale may also indicate the need for close supervision of the case. For very high scoring cases, cognitive interventions, coupled with substance abuse treatment (for example), may best begin in a controlled setting that is separated from all of the community/peer distractions. This might be sequenced prior to other community placement/probation program conditions.

### SCALE ITEMS

**How difficult will it be for you to...**

- Learn to control your temper? Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult ___
- Keep control of yourself when other people make you mad? Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult ___

**How do you feel about the following?**

- I feel other people get more breaks than me. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- People have let me down or disappointed me. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I like to be in control in most situations. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I will argue to win with other people even over unimportant things. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- When I get angry, I say unkind or hurtful things to people. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I feel that people are talking about me behind my back. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I feel it is best to trust no one. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I prefer to be the one who is in charge in my relationships with other people. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I often lose my temper. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I get angry at other people easily. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I feel I have been mistreated by other people. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I often feel that I have enemies that are out to hurt me in some way. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- When dealing with new people, I quickly figure out whether they are strong or weak. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I often feel a lot of anger inside myself. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I feel that life has given me a raw deal. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- When people are being nice, I worry about what they really want. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- When other people tell me what to do I get angry. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I notice that other people seem afraid of me. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree
- I often get angry quickly, but then get over it quickly. ___ Mostly Disagree ___ Uncertain/Don’t know ___ Mostly Agree

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**Measurement and Treatment Implications of COMPAS Reentry Scales**  
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### SCALE NAME: PRISON MISCONDUCT (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
The items in this scale focus on the misconducts an offender has committed while in prison. The scale measures the number of infractions and their seriousness.

### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
High scores indicate institutional disciplinary/misconduct problems. This may be an indication of the person's likelihood of not complying with conditions of parole (not following the rules) once released. Cognitive interventions may be appropriate.

### SCALE ITEMS:
- **Total # of non-bondable major misconducts in the last 24 months of incarceration:**
- **Total # of bondable misconduct guilty findings in the last 24 months of incarceration:**
  - **Total # of bondable and non-bondable misconduct guilty findings in the past 24 months for:**
    - Assaults (involving physical injury) on staff
    - Assaults (involving physical injury) on inmates
    - Sexual Assault
    - Weapons
    - Fights
    - Drugs
    - Escape
    - Sexual Misconduct
    - Other
  - Does the inmate appear to have notable disciplinary issues?  ___No     ___Yes     ___Unsure
  - During this incarceration (for all active cases) was the inmate ever reclassified from a lower to a higher security classification level for reasons other than programming or medical needs?  ___No     ___Yes
  - If answered yes to above (number of times for each):
    - Minimum (I) to Medium (II, III)
    - Medium (II, III) to Maximum (IV, V)
    - Minimum (I) to Maximum (IV, V)
### SCALE NAME: REENTRY COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL (Cut Points: Low 1-4, Medium 5-7, High 8-10)

#### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
This is a higher order scale that incorporates the concepts and items included in the Criminal Associates, Criminal Opportunity, Criminal Thinking, Early Socialization, and Social Adjustment scales.

#### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
Scores of 7 and above may suggest a need for cognitive restructuring intervention as part of the case management plan. A high score in this scale may also indicate the need for close supervision of the case. For very high scoring cases, cognitive interventions, coupled with substance abuse treatment (for example), may best begin in a controlled setting that is separated from all of the community/peer distractions. This might be sequenced prior to other community placement/probation program conditions.

#### SCALE ITEMS (all items from the following scales)
- Criminal Thinking Observation
- Negative Social Cognitions
- Life Goals/Aimless
- Low Empathy
- Early Onset
- Prison Misconduct
**SCALE NAME:** REENTRY EMPLOYMENT EXPECTATIONS  (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This higher order scale assesses the degree of success or failure in the areas of work and education. A high score represents a lack of resources; a low score represents an offender with greater access to work and educational resources. Those who score high have typically failed to complete high school, been suspended or expelled from school, gotten poor grades, and/or have no job skills, no current job, poor employment history, access only to minimum wage jobs, etc.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Scores of 6 and more may suggest that vocational, employability and educational skills training would be beneficial. Additionally, help may be required in both job seeking and job maintenance. It is important to establish the specific training that is required.

**SCALE ITEMS:**

- Has the individual completed high school diploma or GED?  
  - Yes
  - No
  - Unclear

- Does the inmate have basic educational needs that need to be addressed?  
  - Yes
  - No
  - Unclear

- Is the inmate job ready (skilled, semi-skilled, or professionally skilled)?  
  - Yes
  - No
  - Unclear

- What are the current plans for employment?  
  - No employment plan
  - Return to previous employer
  - Has firm job offer
  - Has employment assurance letter
  - Unable to work or retired
  - Other

- Does the inmate face employability problems upon release?  
  - Yes
  - No
  - Unclear

- Does the inmate currently have a skill, trade or profession at which they usually find work?  
  - Yes
  - No

- Right now, does the inmate feel they need more training in a new job or career skill?  
  - Yes
  - No

- Right now, if the inmate were to get a good job, how would they rate their chance of being successful?  
  - Poor
  - Fair
  - Good

- Thinking of their financial situation prior to this incarceration, how hard was it for the inmate to find a job ABOVE minimum wage compared to others?  
  - Much harder
  - Harder
  - Same
  - Easier

- Will it be difficult for you to find a steady job?  
  - Yes
  - No

- How difficult will it be for you to keep a job once you have found one?  
  - Very difficult
  - Somewhat difficult
  - Not difficult

- How difficult will it be for you to learn better skills to get a job?  
  - Very difficult
  - Somewhat difficult
  - Not difficult
## Scale Name: Reentry Financial (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**How Is This Scale Measured:**
This scale assesses the degree to which a person experiences poverty and financial problems. It assesses whether the person worries about financial survival, has trouble paying bills, and has conflicts with friends or family over money.

**Notes and Treatment Implications:**
Scores of 6 and above (given the overall frequency) on this scale may suggest a strong need for a focus on financial management, finding and keeping jobs, negotiating social assistance, welfare, and so forth. The person may require help in understanding the use of food stamps, unemployment compensation, and other ways of negotiating government social assistance. Counseling on money management and addressing outstanding child support issues may be required. Coupled with vocational/employment information, the case plan may call for priority in stabilizing the person’s income, and developing budgeting skills.

**Scale Items:**
- Will the inmate have any financial problems upon release? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- Thinking of their financial situation prior to this incarceration, how hard was it for the inmate to find a job ABOVE minimum wage compared to others? ___Easier ___Same ___Harder ___Much Harder
- Will money be a problem for you when released? ___No ___Yes ___Don’t Know
- How difficult will it be for you to manage your money? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to have enough money to get by? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to support yourself financially without using illegal ways to get money? ___Not Difficult ___Somewhat Difficult ___Very Difficult

## Scale Name: Reentry Residential Instability (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)

**How Is This Scale Measured:**
The items in this scale measure the degree to which an offender has long term ties to the community. A low score on this scale indicates an offender who has a stable and verifiable address, local telephone and long term local ties. A high-score would indicate a person who has no regular living situation, has lived at the present address for a short time, is isolated from family, has no telephone, and frequently changes residences.

**Notes and Treatment Implications:**
This scale may signal weak social ties and stress due to a changing, unstable, and disorganized lifestyle. A high score would suggest a focus on obtaining more stable living arrangements, and building more conventional social ties. The case plan may call for stabilizing the living situation, reestablishing family contacts, etc. Referral to financial supports or subsidized housing may be relevant.

**Scale Items**
- Will the inmate face housing problems upon release? ___No ___Yes ___Unsure
- Will you need to be helped with temporary housing when released? ___No ___Yes ___Don’t Know
- How difficult will it be to find a steady place to live? Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult ___
- How difficult will it be to find a safe place to live where you won’t be hassled or threatened? Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult ___
**SCALE NAME: REENTRY SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT  (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale focuses on the amount of crime, disorder, and victimization potential in the neighborhood in which a person lives. High crime is indicated by the presence of gangs, ease of obtaining drugs, the likelihood of being victimized, a belief that a weapon is needed for protection, and so on.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Offenders with scores of 7 and above may require help in relocating to a lower risk neighborhood if this is possible, or finding safety in their residential area. This scale often links to other high risk factors (e.g. residential instability, poverty, criminal opportunity, etc.) Therefore, the multi-modal treatment approach may be appropriately aimed at improving residential arrangements, lifestyle issues, and to upgrade conventional skills (i.e. employability).

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- From your knowledge of the inmate and their reentry plan, what kind of community will they be returning to? (Check all that apply)
  - ___ Middle Class area
  - ___ Institutional living (safe and secure)
  - ___ Socially Disadvantaged area
  - ___ High unemployment area
  - ___ High crime/gang area
- In your judgment will inmate be living in a high risk area? ___ Definitely No ___ Suspect No ___ Unclear/Unsure ___ Suspect Yes ___ Definitely Yes

**SCALE NAME: REENTRY SOCIAL ISOLATION  (Cut Points: Low 1-5, Medium 6-7, High 8-10)**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale assesses the degree to which the person has a supportive social network and is both accepted and well integrated into this network. The scale is scored such that a high score represents an absence of supports and feelings of social isolation and loneliness. The defining items include: feeling close to friends, feeling left out of things, the presence of companionship, having a close best friend, feeling lonely, etc.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
The case management strategy for offenders scoring high in this scale may include emphasis on working within the family and community (i.e. church, support groups, etc.), to mend or strengthen bonds. Social skills improvements may be appropriate; and work on social cognitions related to negative perceptions and rejection may be important.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- How difficult will it be for you to find people that you can trust? ___ Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to find friends who will be a good influence on you? ___ Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to get along with people? ___ Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to deal with loneliness? ___ Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult
- How difficult will it be for you to find people to do things with? ___ Not Difficult ___ Somewhat Difficult ___ Very Difficult
SCALE NAME: REENTRY SUBSTANCE ABUSE  (Cut Points: Low 1-2, Medium 3-4, High 5-10)

HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
The present scale is a general indicator of substance abuse problems. A high score suggests the person who has drug or alcohol problems and may need substance abuse treatment intervention. The items in this scale cover prior treatment for alcohol or drug problems, drunk driving arrests, blaming drugs or alcohol for present problems, use of drugs as a juvenile, and so on.

NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
Given the high incidence of alcohol and drug problems in offender samples, it is likely that offenders with scores of 6 and above have serious alcohol or drug problems. It will be important to assess the extent of previous treatments, current attitudes regarding treatment, and the responsivity of the offender. Relapse prevention plans may be critical for such offenders. Given the very high frequency of substance abuse problems among offenders, a score of 4 and above indicates a definite need for a more specialized substance abuse assessment inventory (i.e. ASI, SASSI, etc.).

SCALE ITEMS:
- Committed offense while high/drunk? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- Prior drug charges/convictions? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- History of drug problems? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- History of alcohol problems? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- Prior treatments for drug/alcohol abuse? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- Any history of failed drug/UA tests? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
- Is the inmate at risk for substance abuse problems? ___No ___Yes ___Unclear
### SCALE NAME: WC EMPLOYMENT/FINANCIAL

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The employment/financial needs scale assesses the offenders’ employment status, skill in keeping a job, and ability to handle everyday financial matters, such as having enough money to pay bills and the maintenance of having a checking and savings account.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate employment and financial deficits. Possible treatment provisions may include vocational skills training and life skills training focusing on such skills as balancing a checkbook or budgeting.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Prior to your incarceration, were you employed?  
  ___ Fulltime ___ Part time or unable to work because of child/family care, poor health/student, etc.  
  ___ Unemployed, but able to work
- During the 3 years before your offense, did you have any difficulties finding and keeping a job? [If unable to be employed (e.g., parenting, disabled), score No.].  
  ___Yes ___No
- Did you own or lease an automobile?  
  ___Yes ___No
- Did you have a checking account?  
  ___Yes ___No
- Did you have a savings account?  
  ___Yes ___No
- Were you (or you and your significant other) able to pay your bills without financial help from family or friends?  
  ___Yes ___No
- During your adult life, have you ever been homeless or lived in a shelter?  
  ___Yes ___No

**Case Management Notes**
- Do you expect to be the sole provider of your children upon release?  
  ___Yes ___No
- Will you (or you and your children) have medical insurance?  
  ___Yes ___No
- Are you ineligible for any benefits you think you might need?  
  ___Yes ___No  If yes, what benefits?
- Prior to coming here did you have any recent problems like eviction, bankruptcy, calls from collection agencies, cut-off utilities, problems with getting child support payments, repossession of property.....things like that?  
  ___Yes ___No
### SCALE NAME: WC EDUCATIONAL STRENGTHS

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The educational strengths scale consists of four questions relating to whether the offender achieved a high-school education, received any job related licenses or certificates, attended college courses, or obtained a college degree. The educational attainments mentioned are believed to be strengths which assist the offender in obtaining better employment and thus better financial status.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate the offender possesses the protective factor of educational strengths. Possible treatment implications for low scoring individuals may include GED or college classes and job-related certifications.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Have you graduated from High School or received a G.E.D? ___Yes ___No
- Have you received any job-related licenses or certificates? ___Yes ___No
- Have you attended any college or post high school classes for at least one academic term? ___Yes ___No
- Do you have a college degree? (Include 2 year degrees) ___Yes ___No

**Case Management Notes**
- Do you have educational or vocational plans for the future? ___Yes ___No

### SCALE NAME: WC HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The history of mental illness scale consists of 6 items reflecting whether offenders have ever attempted suicide, been involved in counseling/therapy, taken medication, seen things or heard voices, been hospitalized, or been diagnosed with a mental illness.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender has had a diagnosis, treatment, and/or symptoms of mental illness in the past. This scale says nothing about current symptoms or the stability of the offender. This scale is not a diagnosis of mental illness – it is only a screen for further diagnostic techniques. Possible treatment implications include referral to a mental health professional.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Have you ever attempted suicide? ___Yes ___No
- Have you ever seen a counselor, psychologist, or psychiatrist? ___Yes ___No
- Have you ever taken any prescribed medication to help you feel better emotionally? ___Yes ___No
- Have you ever been hospitalized or placed in a mental health unit for any of these or other types of mental health problems? ___Yes ___No
- Have you ever been diagnosed with mental illness? ___Yes ___No

**Case Management Notes**
- Are you currently taking any prescribed medication to help with any of these problems? (Check the most appropriate response)
  - ___No, I have no need for such medication.
  - ___Yes, I have taken medication which seems to help.
  - ___I take medication, but it does not help.
  - ___I have not taken medication for any of these problems even though I have them.
- Are you experiencing any suicidal thoughts? ___Yes ___No
**SCALE NAME: WC CURRENT SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION OR ANXIETY**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The current depression/anxiety scale asks six behaviorally-specific questions that tap common symptoms of depression and anxiety, such as whether the offender is currently experiencing mood swings, loss of appetite, trouble sleeping, fear, trouble concentrating, or difficulty functioning. Asking behavioral questions ensures that the interviewer did not have to play a clinician’s role in determining whether the offender was depressed or anxious.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender has had symptoms of depression or anxiety. This scale is not a diagnosis of depression or anxiety – it says nothing about whether a diagnosis is warranted, and is therefore only a screening to determine if further diagnostic techniques should be utilized. Possible treatment implications include referral to a mental health professional.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Experiencing problems concentrating or staying focused? ___Yes ___No
- Experiencing mood swings --- too many ups and downs? ___Yes ___No
- Experiencing a loss of appetite? ___Yes ___No
- Experiencing fears about the future, which are difficult to cope with? ___Yes ___No
- Having any trouble sleeping because you are too worried about things? ___Yes ___No
- Worrying so much about things that you have trouble getting going and getting things done? ___Yes ___No

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**SCALE NAME: WC CURRENT SYMPTOMS OF PSYCHOSIS OR SUICIDE**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The current psychosis/suicide scale consists of two items asking offenders whether they frequently imagine that others are out to harm them or if they are hearing voices or seeing images that are not really present.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender has had symptoms of psychosis or suicidal ideation such as extreme confusion, hearing voices, imagining others are out to get her, or detachment from reality. This scale is not a diagnosis of psychosis – it is only a screen for further diagnostic techniques. Possible treatment implications include referral to a mental health professional.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Have you ever seen things or heard voices that were not really present? ___Yes ___No
- Having many thoughts that others are out to harm you? ___Yes ___No
### SCALE NAME: WC EXPERIENCE(S) OF ABUSE AS A CHILD

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This two item scale asks offenders whether or not they experienced physical or sexual abuse as a child.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender experienced serious abuse as a child. It says nothing about whether the abuse is current. Possible treatment implications include utilizing trauma-informed services.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Have you ever experienced physical abuse as a child?  ____Yes  ____No
- Have you ever-experienced sexual abuse as a child?  ____Yes  ____No

### SCALE NAME: WC EXPERIENCE(S) OF ABUSE AS AN ADULT

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This two item scale asks offenders whether or not they experienced physical or sexual abuse as an adult.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender experienced serious abuse as an adult. It says nothing about whether the abuse is current. Possible treatment implications include utilizing trauma-informed services.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Have you ever experienced physical abuse as an adult?  ____Yes  ____No
- Have you ever-experienced sexual abuse as an adult?  ____Yes  ____No

### SCALE NAME: WC PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The parental involvement scale consists of 4 items reflecting whether the offender maintains contact with her children while incarcerated, expects to have custody of her children upon release, and remains involved in parenting decisions about her children.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the woman has the protective factor of high involvement in her child’s life. This scale does not say anything about child neglect or abuse nor does it say anything about whether or not she should have custody of her children. Using this scale for custody or abuse determinations would be extremely inappropriate. Possible treatment implications for those scoring low on the scale may include parenting skills classes, involvement in community support groups, or identification and enrollment in programs designed to increase the parent/child bond.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Do you have any children who are 18 or younger?  ____Yes  ____No
- Do you expect to have shared or full custody of your children upon release?  ____Yes  ____No
- Do you maintain at least monthly contact with any children by letter, telephone, or visits?  ____Yes  ____No
- Are you involved in important decisions regarding your children (e.g., school-related, health, outside activities)?  ____Yes  ____No
- Do you feel prepared to be a good parent?  ____Yes  ____No
- **Case Management Notes**
  - Have you ever been investigated for abuse/ neglect of a child (e.g., by police, children services, school)?  ____Yes  ____No
  - Do you think you will be having any difficulty obtaining or maintaining custody of your children?  ____Yes  ____No
**SCALE NAME:** WC SUPPORT FROM FAMILY OF ORIGIN

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale taps attachment dimensions for each offender’s family of origin. Five items reflecting support and communication patterns among females’ families comprise this scale.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender stays in contact with her siblings and parents, her family encourages her self-improvement, and they offer her support in getting established after release. It does not imply unconditional support from her family. Possible treatment implications for those scoring low on the scale include relationship building programs with family members and seeking outside support from friends or community members.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Do you have family? ___Yes ___No
- Do you maintain at least monthly contact with any siblings and/or parents (or parent figures)? ___Yes ___No
- Do your parents or siblings encourage you to participate in programs, classes, or treatment sessions that might help you to avoid trouble in the future (e.g. or come to terms with substance abuse, etc.) ___Yes ___No
- Did you receive visits from parents or siblings during this prison term (or during your recent term if offender is already on parole)? ___Yes ___No
- Have your parents or siblings offered to help you get established after you are released? ___Yes ___No

**Case Management Notes**
- Do any of your family members have a criminal history? ___Yes ___No
**SCALE NAME: WC SELF-EFFICACY**

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The purpose of the Self-Efficacy scale is to measure the degree to which participants feel they are capable of achieving their goals and dealing with problems in their lives. This 17-item scale is based on the Sherer Self-Efficacy Scale (Sherer, Maddus, Mercandante, Prentice-Dunn, Jacobs, & Rogers, 1982)

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender possesses the protective factor of self-efficacy. This implies that the offender has self-confidence in her ability to accomplish her goals. Possible treatment implications for those scoring low on the scale may include programs designed to increase these deficits.

**SCALE ITEMS:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When you make plans, are you fairly certain that you can make them work?</td>
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<td>Do you have problems getting down to work when you should?</td>
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<td>Are you pretty persistent—like if you can’t do a job the first time, do you keep trying until you can?</td>
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<td>When you set important goals for yourself, do you have trouble achieving them?</td>
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<td>Do you give up on things before completing them?</td>
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<td>Do you avoid facing difficulties?</td>
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<td>When something looks complicated, do you avoid trying to do it?</td>
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<td>When you have something unpleasant to do, do you stick to it until you finish it?</td>
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<td>When you decide to do something, do you go right to work on it?</td>
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<td>When you try to learn something new, do you tend to give up if you are not initially successful?</td>
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<td>When unexpected problems occur, do you handle them well?</td>
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<td>Do you avoid trying to learn new things when they look too difficult?</td>
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<td>Does failure just makes you try harder?</td>
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<td>Do you feel insecure about your ability to do things?</td>
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<td>Can you depend on yourself?</td>
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<td>Do you give up easily?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you feel capable of dealing with most problems that come up in life?</td>
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### SCALE NAME: WC RELATIONSHIP DYSFUNCTION

#### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:

The six-item relationship dysfunction scale identifies women who are experiencing relationship difficulties resulting in a loss of personal power. More specifically, this scale includes items which tap a lack of satisfaction and support from one’s partner, neglect of other relationships and responsibilities, and a greater tendency to incur legal problems when in an intimate relationship than when not in one.

#### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Higher scores on this scale indicate the offender loses a sense of personal power in relationships, is more likely to get in trouble when in a relationship than when not, has trouble being herself or stating her needs in a relationship, tries hard to please her partner, and does not feel valued in her relationship. It does not say anything about the satisfaction she feels in this relationship or whether or not she would like to continue this relationship. Possible treatment implications may include programs designed to help women recognize healthy relationships and build skills so that they can accomplish these healthy relationships in their own lives.

#### SCALE ITEMS:

- In general, would you describe these relationships as supportive and satisfying?  ___Yes  ___No
- Have significant others loved and appreciated you for who you are?  ___Often  ___Sometimes  ___Seldom
- Do you find yourself more likely to get in trouble with the law when you are in a relationship than when you are not in a relationship?  ___Often  ___Sometimes  ___Seldom
- Do you get into relationships that are painful for you? Or is your present relationship a painful one?  ___Yes  ___No
- Do you tend to get so focused on your partner that you neglect other relationships and responsibilities?  ___Often  ___Sometimes  ___Seldom
- Have partner(s) been able to convince you to get involved in criminal behavior?  ___Often  ___Sometimes  ___Seldom
### SCALE NAME: WC PARENTAL STRESS

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The parental stress scale contains 12 survey items and 6 interview items that reflect a woman who feels overwhelmed by her parental responsibilities and includes items pertaining to child management skills and the extent of support offered by family members.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the woman has poor support from her family and the child’s father, has difficulty with child management, and feels some level of desperation or overwhelming feelings about her parenting responsibilities. It does not say anything about child neglect or abuse nor does it say anything about whether or not she should have custody of her children. Using this scale for custody or abuse determinations would be extremely inappropriate. Possible treatment implications may include parenting skills classes, involvement in community support groups, or identification and enrollment in programs to assist with childcare.

**SCALE ITEMS:**

- In my life outside of prison, I have many people I can lean on, who would help me out during tough times.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- I believe that I am admired and praised by the people in my life. They think that I am worthy and important.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- The people in my life have confidence in me and expect that I will do the right thing and make good decisions?
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- No one has ever really listened to me.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- Raising children is a nerve-wracking job.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- My life seems to have been one crises after another.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- I go through times when I feel helpless and unable to do the things I should.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- Sometimes I just feel like running away.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- Most of the time, I get no support from the children’s father (or step father).
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- Raising children is harder than I expected.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- I have trouble keeping my kids from misbehaving.
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree

- My children are difficult to control
  - [ ] Strongly Disagree
  - [ ] Disagree
  - [ ] Not Sure
  - [ ] Agree
  - [ ] Strongly Agree
## SCALE NAME: WC CHILD ABUSE SURVEY

### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:

The child abuse survey scale assesses the degree to which a participant experienced physical and emotional abuse as a child. It is comprised of 19 questions which ask the participant if she has ever been pushed, kicked, beaten, dragged, choked, burned, forced to do something embarrassing, insulted or ridiculed etc. during childhood.

### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender experienced serious abuse as a child. It says nothing about whether the abuse is current. Possible treatment implications include utilizing trauma-informed services.

### SCALE ITEMS:

**Have you experienced the following behaviors as a child?**

- Pushed/shoved you    ___ Never    ___ Less Than 5 Times    ___ More Than 5 Times
- Threw something at you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Kicked/hit you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Beat you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Dragged you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Scratched you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Bent your fingers / twisted your arm ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Held you up against a wall ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Choked you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Burned/scalded you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to use weapons against you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to kill you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to harm you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Actually used a weapon against you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Forced you to do something embarrassing ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Insulted, ridiculed, or humiliated you ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Called you loser, failure, stupid, etc. ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Said that you were ugly or unattractive ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
- Locked you in some location ___ Never ___ Less Than 5 Times ___ More Than 5 Times
### SCALE NAME: WC ADULT VICTIM SURVEY

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
The adult abuse survey scale assesses the degree to which a participant experienced physical and emotional abuse as an adult. It is comprised of 15 questions which ask the participant if she has ever been pushed, kicked, beaten, dragged, choked, or had her life or her children threatened.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender experienced serious abuse as an adult. It says nothing about whether the abuse is current. Possible treatment implications include utilizing trauma-informed services.

**SCALE ITEMS:**

**Have you experienced the following behaviors as a child?**

- Slapped you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Pushed/shoved you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Threw something at you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Kicked/hit you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Beat you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Dragged you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Scratched you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Bent your fingers / twisted your arm: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Held you against the wall: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Choked you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to use weapons against you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to kill you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to harm you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Threatened to harm your children: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
- Actually used a weapon against you: ___Never, ___Less Than 5 Times, ___More Than 5 Times
### SCALE NAME: WC ANGER/HOSTILITY

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This seven-item scale consists of questions measuring self-perceptions of angry feelings and behavioral displays of aggression.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate greater difficulties managing and controlling aggression. Possible treatment implications may include anger management classes or other classes designed to deal with aggression.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Would you describe yourself as having a strong temper? ___Yes ___No
- Do you have trouble controlling your temper when you get upset? ___Yes ___No
- Were you angry or upset when you committed the present offense? ___Yes ___No
- Within the past 3 years, have you ever hit/hurt anyone, including family members when you were upset (exclude self-defense)? ___Yes ___No
- Have these events ever resulted in involvement with child and family services or law enforcement? ___Yes ___No
- Have any of these experiences occurred within the past 6 months (exclude self defense)? ___Yes ___No
- Within the past 6 months have you had any times when you think you got too aggressive when something made you angry? ___Yes ___No
- Have you taken any classes or programs to help you manage your anger? ___Yes ___No

### Scale Management Notes
- Have you taken any classes or programs to help you manage your anger?

### SCALE NAME: WC CONFLICT WITH FAMILY OF ORIGIN

**HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:**
This scale taps attachment dimensions for each offender’s family of origin. Three items reflecting conflict and communication patterns among females’ families comprise this scale.

**NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:**
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender has high levels of conflict and disagreement with her siblings and parents. It also implies that her family is not supportive of her rehabilitative efforts. It does not imply that her family does not care about her. Possible treatment implications include relationship building programs with family members, conflict resolution skills training, and seeking outside support from friends or community members.

**SCALE ITEMS:**
- Do parents or any siblings currently refuse to communicate with you because they are angry with you? ___Yes ___No
- How is your relationship with parents (parent figures) and/or siblings? (check the option that best applies)
  - Good, just minor conflicts
  - Conflictual some of the time (mixed)
  - Conflictual most of the time
  - Family, but no contact
- Have any family members (parents or siblings) ever been in trouble with the law or had problems with substance abuse or domestic violence? ___Yes ___No
## SCALE NAME: WC HOUSING SAFETY

### HOW IS THIS SCALE MEASURED:
This scale focuses on the level of violence and safety experienced in her prior residence and gathers information about her future living arrangements.

### NOTES AND TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS:
Higher scores on this scale indicate that the offender has a history of unsafe or violent living situations. Possible treatment implications include identifying safe and stable residential options free of threats of violence from roommates or partners and in neighborhoods where she feels safe.

### SCALE ITEMS:
- Did you feel safe in your last home, prior to your incarceration? ___Yes ___No
- Did you feel safe in your last neighborhood prior to your incarceration? ___Yes ___No
- Was your home environment free of violence? ___Yes ___No
- Was your home environment free of substance abuse? ___Yes ___No

**Case Management Notes**
- During the 18 months prior to your offense, how many times did you move your residence?
- Will you be living on your own for the next several months? ___Yes ___No
  - If no, who will you be living with (relationship not name)?