Name of Measure: Satisfaction with Life Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen, & Griffin, 1985)

Purpose of Measure: To assess overall satisfaction with life

Author(s) of abstract:

Jennifer Crocker
State University of New York at Buffalo

Riia Luhtanen
State University of New York at Buffalo

Bruce Blaine
State University of New York at Buffalo

Stephanie Broadnax
State University of New York at Buffalo


Description of measure: The Satisfaction With Life is a five-item scale that “is designed around the idea that one must ask subjects for an overall judgement of their life in order to measure the concept of life satisfaction” (Diener et al., 1985, pp. 71-72). Individuals indicate their degree of agreement or disagreement on a 7-point Likert-type scale.

Language availability: English.

Translation Comment: Not applicable

Description of Asian population: Two hundred and thirty eight undergraduate students enrolled in a large northeastern university participated in the research. They were 40.3% White/Caucasian, 38.2% Black/African American, 14.7% as Asian/Oriental, 6.7% Other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% Male</th>
<th>% U.S. Citizens</th>
<th>% English as 1st lang</th>
<th>Median family income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>50,000-59,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>30,000-39,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>62.9</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>30,000-39,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Norms:
SWLS Scale Means and Standard Deviations by Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Asian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean ***</td>
<td>22.53</td>
<td>22.02</td>
<td>17.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standard Deviation</td>
<td>5.49</td>
<td>5.89</td>
<td>5.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** p<.001

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Reliability: Diener et al. (1985) reported internal consistency reliability of .87. The alpha coefficient for the present combined sample was .82

Validity: See original reference


How to obtain a copy of the instrument: Contact Marianne Yoshioka, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work, 622 West 113th Street, New York, NY 10025 (212)-854-5669. Mry5@columbia.edu