

School Climate
Hamby, Taylor, Smith, & Blount (2018)

School climate is an important consideration of the environment that children and adolescents spend most of their time during the day. School climate encompasses feelings of safety, belonging, and validation in the school environment. This questionnaire has been validated to be used in youth populations.

Development and validation of measure: To establish reliability and validity for new and adapted items, we conducted a study with 440 youth participants from rural areas of the southeast, recruited through a local email classifieds list and word-of-mouth. We conducted domain-level factor analyses for all measures of interpersonal strengths. Six out of the seven original items used in the survey loaded onto the same factor; and one item from the original Teacher Engagement scale loaded on the same factor as well. Internal consistency (coefficient alpha) was .78. Validity was established in our sample with moderate to strong correlations with other measures, such as Teacher Engagement ($r=.51$), and Group Connectedness ($r=.29$).

Scoring: Each answer category was assigned a value from 4 to 1. Participant's raw scores on each item were standardized into z-scores. The scale-level mean was calculated from the item-level z-scores for participants who responded to at least half of the items on the scale, with higher scores indicating more positive perceptions of school climate.

Citation:

Hamby, S., Taylor, E., Smith, A., & Blount, Z. (2018). *Resilience Portfolio Questionnaire Manual: Scales for youth*. Sewanee, TN: Life Paths Research Center.

1. My school building is in good condition.
Mostly true about me 4
Somewhat true about me 3
A little true about me 2
Not true about me 1
2. Teachers and other adults at my school are fair to students.
Mostly true about me 4
Somewhat true about me 3
A little true about me 2
Not true about me 1
3. Most of my classes have less than 30 students.
Mostly true about me 4
Somewhat true about me 3
A little true about me 2
Not true about me 1
4. I feel like my school is a good place to learn.
Mostly true about me 4
Somewhat true about me 3
A little true about me 2
Not true about me 1
5. Teachers care about what students have to say.
Mostly true about me 4

Youth only

Somewhat true about me 3
A little true about me 2
Not true about me 1