



# COMPANIONSHIP MEASURE DIFFERENCES

A brief guide to differences between the PROMIS<sup>®</sup> Companionship instruments:

ADULT
PROMIS Short Form v2.0 – Companionship 4a
PROMIS Short Form v2.0 – Companionship 6a

## ABOUT COMPANIONSHIP

The PROMIS adult Companionship item short forms assess perceived availability of someone with whom to share enjoyable social activities such as visiting, talking, celebrations, etc.

Companionship instruments are available for adults (ages 18+).

## INTRODUCTION TO ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

There is one administration option for assessing Companionship: short forms. When administering a short form, instruct participants to answer all of the items (i.e., questions or statements) presented.

### Selecting a Short Form

In selecting between short forms, the difference is instrument length. The reliability and precision of the short forms within a domain is highly similar. If you are working with a sample in which you want the most precise measure, select the longest short form. If you have little room for additional measures but really wanted to capture something as a secondary outcome, select one of the shorter instruments (e.g., 4-item short form).

## VERSION DIFFERENCES

There is no version of Companionship that existed before v2.0. The initial Companionship item bank was named v2.0 in order to be consistent with the Ability to Participate in Social Roles and Activities v2.0 and Satisfaction with Social Role and Activities v2.0 instruments.

## SCORES

For most PROMIS instruments, a score of 50 is the average for the United States general population with a standard deviation of 10 because calibration testing was performed on a large sample of the general population. You can read more about the calibration and centering samples on HealthMeasures.net (<http://www.healthmeasures.net/score-and-interpret/interpret-scores/promis>). The T-score is provided with an error term (Standard Error or SE). The Standard Error is a statistical measure of variance and represents the “margin of error” for the T-score.

**Important** *A higher PROMIS T-score represents more of the concept being measured. For positively-worded concepts like Companionship, a T-score of 60 is one SD better than average. By comparison, a Companionship T-score of 40 is one SD worse than average.*

## STATISTICAL CHARACTERISTICS



There are four key features of the score for Companionship:

- **Reliability:** The degree to which a measure is free of error. It can be estimated by the internal consistency of the responses to the measure, or by correlating total scores on the measure from two time points when there has been no true change in what is being measured (for z-scores, reliability =  $1 - SE^2$ ).
- **Precision:** The consistency of the estimated score (reciprocal of error variance).
- **Information:** The precision of an item or multiple items at different levels of the underlying continuum (for z-scores, information =  $1/SE^2$ ).
- **Standard Error (SE):** The possible range of the actual final score based upon the scaled T-score. For example, with a T-score of 52 and a SE of 2, the 95% confidence interval around the actual final score ranges from 48.1 to 55.9 (T-score  $\pm$  (1.96\*SE) =  $52 \pm 3.9 = 48.1$  to 55.9).

Figure 1

The final score is represented by the T-score, a standardized score with a mean of 50 and a standard deviation (SD) of 10.

Figure 1 is a sample of the statistical information available for the adult Companionship CAT.

More information is available at [HealthMeasures.net](http://HealthMeasures.net).

Figure 2 is an excerpt from the paper version of the adult four-item short form. This is the paper version format used for all Companionship instruments.

Sample	N	Alpha Reliability
Promis	14931	0.99

  

Score Distributions									
	Mean	SD	P5	P10	P25	P50	P75	P90	P95
Raw	220.69	91.34	98.00	109.00	142.00	206.00	284.00	356.00	392.00
Scale	51.23	9.41	36.46	39.02	44.31	50.82	57.83	63.97	67.33

  

Scale Score	10.0	20.0	30.0	40.0	50.0	60.0	70.0	80.0	90.0	Min	Max
SE	1.70	.70	.20	.10	.10	.10	.10	.10	.30		
Reliability	.00	.52	.94	.99	.99	.99	.99	.99	.90		

Please respond to each item by marking one box per row.

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always
FBE31057x2	Do you have someone with whom to have fun? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
FBE31051x2	Do you have someone with whom to relax? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

Figure 2

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Q: I am interested in learning more. Where can I do that?

Review the HealthMeasures website at [www.healthmeasures.net](http://www.healthmeasures.net).



Q: Are these instruments available in other languages?

Yes! Look at the HealthMeasures website (<http://www.healthmeasures.net/explore-measurement-systems/promis/intro-to-promis/available-translations>) for current information on PROMIS translations.