

Beliefs about Social Mobility Scale (Teen)

This survey accompanies a measure in the SPARQTools.org [Measuring Mobility toolkit](#), which provides practitioners curated instruments for assessing mobility from poverty and tools for selecting the most appropriate measures for their programs.

Age: Teen

Duration: < 3 minutes

Reading Level: 6th to 8th grade

Number of items: 6

Answer Format: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = somewhat disagree; 4 = neither agree or disagree; 5 = somewhat agree; 6 = agree; 7 = strongly agree

Scoring:

Q1, Q2, and Q3 should be reverse-scored. Reverse-scored items are worded in the opposite direction of what the scale is measuring. The formula for reverse-scoring an item is:

$$((\text{Number of scale points}) + 1) - (\text{Respondent's answer})$$

For example, Q3 is a 7-point scale. If a respondent answered 2 on Q3, you would re-code their answer as: $(7 + 1) - 2 = 6$.

In other words, you would enter a 6 for this respondents' answer to Q3.

To calculate the total score for each participant, take the average rating of the items by adding respondents' answers to each item and dividing this sum by the total number of items (6).

Source:

Browman, A. S., Destin, M., Carswell, K. L., & Svoboda, R. C. (2017). Perceptions of socioeconomic mobility influence academic persistence among low socioeconomic status students. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 72*, 45-52.

Instructions: “Status in society” refers to how much money you and your family have, the kind of jobs you have, and how you describe your place in society (lower class, middle class, or upper class).

1. You have a certain status in society, and you really can't do much to change it.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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2. Your status in society is something about you that you can't really change very much.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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3. You can do things differently, but you can't really change your status in society.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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4. No matter who you are, you can significantly change your status a lot.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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5. You can always greatly change your status in society.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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6. No matter what your status is at one point in your life, you can always change it quite a bit.

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
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