



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, MOTIVATION, AND BELIEFS SURVEY

Future Orientation Module

DEFINITION

Future orientation refers to a young person’s ability to set short- and long-term goals and make plans to reach them. Young people who are able to do this, and who feel hopeful and optimistic about the future, are more likely to succeed in school and beyond.

ITEMS AND RESPONSE OPTIONS

Prompt: This survey is confidential. <i>Read each of the following statements and decide how true they are for you.</i>				
	<i>N</i> = 298*	<i>M</i> = 3.24	<i>SD</i> = 0.75	α = 0.788
Variable	Description		Coding	
FO_GoodThings	I expect good things to happen to me		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	
FO_Excited	I feel excited about my future		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	
FO_TrustFuture	I trust my future will turn out well		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	
FO_HaveGoals	I have goals in my life		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	
FO_SetGoals	If I set goals, I take action to reach them		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	
FO_MakePlans	I make step-by-step plans to reach my goals		“1” = Not at all true “2” = Somewhat true “3” = Mostly true “4” = Completely true	



NOTES

Hope items are taken from the Hope Scale for Teenagers; Goal-directed behavior items are taken from the Goal Orientation Scale for Teenagers; both were developed for Child Trends' Flourishing Children's project (Lippman et. al., 2012)

*Scale statistics are based on a pilot administration of this survey in April-May of 2015; Item means, standard deviations, and Cronbach's alpha statistic (α) are calculated using SPSS. All are averaged across scale items for respondents who provided valid answers for all items within the scale.

SOURCE INFORMATION

Lippman, L., Guzman, L., & Anderson Moore, K. (2012). *Measuring flourishing among youth: Findings from the Flourishing Children Positive Indicators Project*. Child Trends.