

The Resilience, Adaptation and Well-Being Project



Family Coping Index

FAMCI

FAMCI:

Family Coping Index

Overview

The Family Coping Index (FAMCI) was developed by Hamilton McCubbin, Anne Thompson, and Kelly Elver (1995b) to assess family coping efforts of families of youth at risk, youth offenders and youth in residential treatment programs. Given the importance of family coping as a viable target for intervention, the goal was to develop a measure which would be ethnically sensitive and particularly applicable to the families of both Caucasian and African American youth. The FAMCI is available in English and Spanish.

Development of FAMCI

The FAMCI was based upon, modified and adapted from the Family Crisis Oriented Personal Evaluation Scales (F-COPES) (H.I. McCubbin, Olson, & Larsen, 1981). It was developed through a systematic assessment of the self-reported coping responses of the families of youth offenders (both Caucasian and African-American), the identification of the coping repertoires and the testing of the reliability and validity of the measure through factor analysis, tests of internal consistency, and tests of concurrent, construct, and predictive validity.

Conceptual Organization

The FAMCI is a 24-item inventory which asks the adult members, usually parent(s), to record on a 5-point Likert scale the degree to which they agree or disagree with the coping behavior listed which describes how their family unit as a group typically responds to and copes with problems or difficulties.

Through additional factor analysis on a population of families of at risk youth, youth offenders and youth in residential treatment programs, the original 30-item F-COPES was reduced to a more parsimonious 24 items. The FAMCI was administered to the parent(s) at their son's or daughter's intake and shortly before his or her departure from the treatment program. In addition to having intake or baseline measures of family coping, follow-up measures were also obtained to measure and record changes in family coping. The FAMCI consists of three subscales:

- I. **The Seeking Professional and Spiritual Guidance Subscale.** A 7-item measure which assesses the degree to which the family unit, faced with a hardship or a cluster of difficulties, will seek the support of professional service providers and support systems, including the church and ministry. The family's coping repertoire includes such behaviors as: participating in church activities; seeking advice from a minister; seeking professional counseling and help; seeking assistance from community agencies and programs; doing things with relatives; and seeking information and advice from the family doctor.
- II. **The Seeking Family and Neighbor Support Subscale.** A 9-item sub scale directed toward recording the family's efforts to solicit support and guidance from relatives and friends as part of the family's coping repertoire. The family's coping efforts include: sharing difficulties with relatives; seeking advice from relatives; seeking encouragement and support from friends; seeking information and advice from persons in other families who face the same or similar problems; asking neighbors for help and assistance; and sharing concerns with close friends.
- III. **The Affirming the Family's Confidence Subscale.** An 8-item subscale which solicits self-appraisal of the family's confidence in its ability to handle, solve or withstand major problems and issues that may arise. This subscale includes in its coping repertoire: knowing we have the power to solve major problems; knowing we have the strength within our family to solve our problems; facing the problems head on; believing we can handle our own problems; accepting difficulties occur unexpectedly; defining the family problem in a more positive way; and showing that we are strong.

Reliability

Overall internal reliability (Cronbach's alpha) for the FAMCI is .85. The overall reliability for the Seeking Professional and Spiritual Guidance subscale is .80. The overall reliability for the Seeking Family and Neighbor Support subscale is .78. The overall reliability for the Affirming the Family's Confidence subscale is .70.

Validity

Validity of the instrument was established in two ways. The first was to correlate the Family Coping Index to a successful outcome (predictive validity) of the residential treatment program, and the second was to conduct discriminant analysis to determine the FAMCI's ability to predict successful outcome. Two criterion indices of success were adopted for this investigation: (a) program completion and (b) post-treatment (3-and 12-month) living situation. Successful completion is operationalized as a classification given to youth who furnish the treatment program or who, in the staff's judgment met the staff's expectation for progress and achieved an acceptable level of improvement to be released earlier. Successful post-program adaptation is defined and operationalized as a classification given to youth who leave the program and who upon follow-up (3 or 12 months later) are found to be in a less restrictive living situation (e.g., with family, in a foster home, group home, or independent living situation). Failure is defined as youth living in more restrictive settings (e.g., jail, youth home, shelter, private care facility, state institution or mental health facility) (Table 16.1). Only family confidence was related to successful post-treatment outcomes (3 months and 12 months) for African-American youth. When all scales are considered together, FAMCI when combined with other factors is an important predictor of program completion and successful post-treatment adaptation (H.I. McCubbin, Fleming, A.I. Thompson, Neitman, Elver, & Savas, 1995).

Test-Retest Reliability

Test-retest data were not available given the use of the measures, however, we have data on the stability of the measures over a 6-12 month period. Predictably, given our interest in changing coping behaviors, the correlation between baseline and follow-up data should be at the expected .30 to .50 range, some modest correlations but with change (differences) also recorded. The test-retest coefficient for the total F AMCI is .56. The test-retest reliabilities for the Seeking Professional and Spiritual Guidance subscale, the Seeking Family and Neighbor Support subscale, and the Affirming the Family's Confidence subscale are .57, .54, and .41 respectively.

Additional Validity Checks

No additional validity information is available at this time.

Scoring Procedures

To obtain a total score for YCI, the values of all the responses (i.e., Strongly Disagree=1, Moderately Disagree=2, Neutral=3, Moderately Agree=4, and Agree=5) should be summed. Subscale scores are obtained by summing the number circled by the respondent (i.e., Strongly Disagree=1, Moderately Disagree=2, Neutral=3, Moderately Agree=4, and Agree=5) for the items in each subscale. The following list will help you determine which items belong to each subscale.

Subscale 1:	Seeking Professional and Spiritual Guidance	6, 9, 13, 16, 17, 19, 22
Subscale 2:	Seeking Family and Neighbor Support	1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 14, 21, 23
Subscale 3:	Affirming the Family's Confidence Subscale	3, 7, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 24

Norms and/or Comparative Data

The comparative data for F AMCI are available separately for Mexican-American and Caucasian families as well as for the overall sample. Percentiles with standardized scores, means and standard deviations are presented in Tables 16.2 through 16.13 (H.I. McCubbin, A.I. Thompson, & Elver, 1995b).

Instrument Utilization for Research

The F AMCI instrument is currently being tested within the Family Stress, Coping and Health Project and by other investigators. The few studies that have included this instrument have already been cited in the validity section of this chapter and are included in the references. Therefore, a summary table of related publications is not available at this time.

Notes

1. The availability of additional psychometrics and bibliographies of other users is limited at the date of publication due to the recent development of the instrument. Upon publication of this material, wider usage is expected, and as subsequent publications become available they will be added to our database. If you would like to inquire about more recent studies, please write to us at the Center for Excellence in Family Studies, Family Stress, Coping and Health Project, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1300 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706 or send email to manual@macc.wisc.edu. There will be a charge for these additional materials.
2. When referencing this instrument, the proper citation is: McCubbin, H.I., Thompson, A.I., & Elver, K.M. (1995). Family Coping Index (FAMCI). In H.I. McCubbin, A.I. Thompson, & M.A. McCubbin (1996). Family assessment: Resiliency, coping and adaptation-Inventories for research and practice. (pp. 509-535). Madison: University of Wisconsin System.
3. A Spanish language version of FAMCI is available but was not typeset for this publication. Please write or email if you wish to obtain a copy. There will be a charge for this additional material,

Table 16.2
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Total Scale Overall
Families (N = 477)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-25	-4.3	.2
26-40	-3.2	.4
41-43	-3.0	.6
44-48	-2.6	.8
49-50	-2.5	1.5
51	-2.4	1.7
52	-2.3	2.3
53-54	-2.2	2.5
55	-2.1	3.1
56-57	-2.0	3.4
58-60	-1.8	4.0
61	-1.7	5.5
62	-1.6	7.1
63-64	-1.5	9.0
65	-1.4	9.4
66-67	-1.3	10.9
68	-1.2	12.8
69	-1.1	13.6
70-71	-1.0	17.0
72	-0.9	18.7
73-74	-0.8	22.4
75	-0.7	24.7
76	-0.6	26.8
77-78	-0.5	30.8
79	-0.4	33.8
80-81	-0.3	40.3
82	-0.2	43.0
83	-0.1	46.3
84-85	0.0	51.8
86	+0.1	54.7
87-88	+0.2	58.9
89	+0.3	60.4
90	+0.4	62.9
91-92	+0.5	67.1
93	+0.6	69.6
94-95	+0.7	77.1
96	+0.8	79.5
97	+0.9	81.3
98-99	+1.0	87.0
100	+1.1	88.7
101-102	+1.2	91.4
103	+1.3	93.3
104	+1.4	95.0
105-106	+1.5	96.2
107	+1.6	96.9
108-109	+1.7	98.1
110	+1.8	98.3
111	+1.9	98.5
112	+2.0	99.0
113-116	+2.2	99.4
117	+2.3	99.6

118-120

+2.5

100.0

Mean = 84.558

SD = 13.993

Range = 95

Kurtosis = .429

Skewness = -.434

Mode = 81.0

Table 16.3
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Professional and
Spiritual Support Overall Families (N = 477)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-7	-3.1	.6
8	-2.9	.8
9	-2.7	1.9
10	-2.6	2.1
11-12	-2.2	3.1
13	-2.1	4.2
14	-2.0	5.2
15	-1.7	7.3
16	-1.6	9.0
17	-1.4	11.1
18	-1.2	13.2
19	-1.1	15.7
20	-1.0	18.7
21	-0.7	22.6
22	-0.6	28.7
23	-0.4	33.3
24	-0.3	38.6
25-26	0.0	51.4
27	+0.2	58.7
28	+0.4	66.9
29	+0.6	72.1
30	+0.7	76.9
31	+0.9	82.8
32	+1.1	87.8
33	+1.2	91.4
34	+1.4	95.8
35	+1.6	100.0

Mean = 25.524
SD = 6.065
Range = 28
Kurtosis = .098
Skewness = -.633
Mode = 28.0

Table 16.4
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Family and Community Support Overall Families (N = 477)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-9	-2.7	.6
10	-2.5	1.0
11	-2.4	1.3
12	-2.2	2.1
13	-2.1	3.1
14	-2.0	4.0
15	-1.8	5.0
16	-1.7	6.9
17	-1.5	8.8
18	-1.4	11.1
19	-1.3	13.0
20	-1.1	16.4
21	-1.0	19.3
22	-0.8	21.8
23	-0.7	26.0
24	-0.6	29.4
25	-0.4	34.0
26	-0.3	38.2
27	-0.1	44.9
28	0.0	50.7
29	+0.1	54.9
30	+0.3	61.4
31	+0.4	67.7
32	+0.6	71.9
33	+0.7	76.1
34	+0.9	81.8
35	+1.0	86.8
36	+1.1	90.4
37	+1.3	93.5
38	+1.4	94.5
39	+1.6	96.2
40	+1.7	97.9
41	+1.8	98.1
42	+2.0	98.5
43	+2.1	99.0
44	+2.3	99.2
45	+2.4	100.0

Mean = 27.945
SD = 7.093
Range = 36
Kurtosis = -.222
Skewness = -.279
Mode = 27.0

Table 16.5
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Affirming Family's
Confidence Overall Families (N = 477)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-9	-4.3	.4
10-14	-3.4	.6
15-16	-3.0	1.0
17	-2.8	1.3
18	-2.6	1.7
19	-2.4	2.1
20	-2.2	3.4
21-22	-1.8	5.2
23	-1.6	8.0
24	-1.4	11.3
25	-1.2	14.5
26	-1.0	18.4
27	-0.8	23.1
28	-0.6	26.8
29	-0.4	32.5
30	-0.2	39.4
31	0.0	47.2
32	+0.2	57.4
33	+0.4	65.0
34	+0.6	73.4
35	+0.8	80.1
36	+1.0	86.8
37	+1.2	91.8
38	+1.4	96.4
39	+1.6	97.7
40	+1.7	100.0

Mean = 31.088
SD = 5.093
Range = 31
Kurtosis = 1.083
Skewness = -.798
Mode = 32.0

Table 16.6
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Total Scale Mexican-
American Families (N=191)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-40	-3.6	.5
41-52	-2.8	2.1
53-55	-2.5	2.6
56-60	-2.2	3.1
61	-2.1	4.2
62	-2.0	5.8
63-65	-1.8	6.3
66-67	-1.7	7.3
68	-1.6	7.9
69-71	-1.4	9.9
72	-1.3	10.5
73	-1.2	11.5
74-75	-1.1	14.1
76	-1.0	15.7
77	-0.9	16.8
78-79	-0.8	17.3
80	-0.7	20.4
81-82	-0.6	26.2
83	-0.5	29.8
84	-0.4	31.4
85-86	-0.3	37.7
87	-0.2	39.8
88	-0.1	42.4
89-90	0.0	47.1
91	+0.1	49.2
92	+0.2	51.3
93-94	+0.3	58.6
95	+0.4	63.4
96-97	+0.5	70.2
98	+0.6	73.8
99	+0.7	77.0
100-101	+0.8	82.2
102	+0.9	84.3
103	+1.0	88.0
104-105	+1.1	92.1
106	+1.2	92.7
107	+1.3	93.7
108-109	+1.4	96.9
110	+1.5	97.4
111-112	+1.6	97.9
113-116	+1.9	99.0
117-120	+2.2	100.0

Mean = 89.597
SD = 13.606
Range = 80
Kurtosis = .861
Skewness = -.735
Mode = 95.0

Table 16.7
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Professional and
Spiritual Support African-American Families (N=191)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-7	-3.5	.5
8-9	-3.2	1.0
10	-3.0	1.6
11-12	-2.8	2.1
13-14	-2.3	3.1
15	-2.2	4.2
16	-2.0	5.8
17	-1.8	7.9
18-19	-1.5	9.9
20	-1.3	12.0
21	-1.2	16.2
22	-1.0	18.3
23	-0.8	22.0
24	-0.7	25.1
25	-0.5	26.7
26	-0.3	30.9
27	-0.1	37.7
28	0.0	46.1
29	+0.2	52.9
30	+0.4	60.2
31	+0.5	67.0
32	+0.7	75.4
33	+0.9	82.7
34	+1.0	91.1
35	+1.2	100.0

Mean = 27.874
SD = 5.932
Range = 28
Kurtosis = .803
Skewness = -1.054
Mode = 35.0

Table 16.8
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Family and Community Support African-American Families (N=191)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-10	-2.7	.5
11-1	-2.4	2.1
13	-2.3	2.6
14	-2.1	4.2
15	-2.0	4.7
16	-1.9	5.8
17	-1.7	6.8
18	-1.6	8.9
19	-1.4	9.9
20	-1.3	13.6
21	-1.2	15.7
22	-1.0	16.8
23	-0.9	20.4
24	-0.7	22.5
25	-0.6	25.7
26	-0.5	29.3
27	-0.3	34.0
28	-0.2	41.9
29	0.0	46.1
30	+0.1	55.0
31	+0.2	60.2
32	+0.4	65.4
33	+0.5	68.6
34	+0.7	75.4
35	+0.8	82.2
36	+0.9	86.9
37	+1.1	91.1
38	+1.2	92.7
39	+1.4	94.2
40	+1.5	96.3
41	+1.6	96.9
42	+1.8	97.4
43	+1.9	97.9
44	+2.1	98.34
45	+2.2	100.0

Mean = 29.293
SD = 7.127
Range = 35
Kurtosis = .000
Skewness = -.405
Mode = 30.0

Table 16.9
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Affirming Family's
Confidence African-American Families (N=191)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-9	-4.8	.5
10-16	-3.4	1.0
17	-3.2	1.6
18-19	-2.7	2.1
20	-2.5	2.6
21-22	-2.1	3.7
23	-1.9	5.2
24-25	-1.5	7.9
26	-1.3	10.5
27	-1.1	14.1
28	-0.9	16.2
29	-0.7	22.5
30	-0.5	28.3
31	-0.3	37.2
32	-0.1	45.0
33	+0.1	53.9
34	+0.3	63.4
35	+0.5	71.7
36	+0.7	80.1
37	+0.9	86.4
38	+1.1	94.2
39	+1.3	96.3
40	+1.5	100.0

Mean = 32.429

SD = 4.886

Range = 31

Kurtosis = 2.875

Skewness = -1.215

Mode = 34.0

Table 16.10
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Total Scale Caucasian
Families (N=286)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-25	-4.2	.3
26-43	-2.9	.7
44-48	-2.5	1.0
49-50	-2.4	2.1
51	-2.3	2.4
52-54	-2.1	2.8
55	-2.0	3.5
56-57	-1.8	3.8
58-59	-1.7	4.2
60	-1.6	4.5
61	-1.5	6.3
62-63	-1.4	9.4
64	-1.3	11.2
65	-1.2	11.5
66-67	-1.1	13.3
68	-1.0	16.1
69	-0.9	17.5
70-71	-0.8	21.7
72	-0.7	24.1
73	-0.6	26.6
74-75	-0.5	31.8
76	-0.4	34.3
77	-0.3	37.8
78-79	-0.2	44.8
80	-0.1	46.5
81	0.0	51.0
82-83	+0.1	57.3
84	+0.2	59.8
85	+0.3	62.9
86-87	+0.4	68.5
88	+0.5	69.9
89	+0.6	71.0
90-91	+0.7	75.5
92	+0.8	77.6
93	+0.9	79.7
94-95	+1.0	86.4
96	+1.1	88.1
97	+1.2	88.8
98-99	+1.3	93.7
100	+1.4	94.4
101	+1.5	95.8
102-103	+1.6	93.9
104	+1.7	97.9
105	+1.8	98.3
106-107	+1.9	99.0
108-112	+2.3	99.7
113-120	+2.7	100.0

Mean = 81.192
SD = 13.237
Range = 92
Kurtosis = .720

Skewness = -.390
Mode = 79.0

Table 16.11
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Professional and
Spiritual Support Caucasian Families (N=286)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-7	-3.0	.7
8	-2.8	1.0
9	-2.7	2.4
10-12	-2.1	3.8
13	-1.9	5.6
14	-1.8	6.6
15	-1.6	9.4
16	-1.4	11.2
17	-1.2	13.3
18	-1.1	16.8
19	-0.9	19.6
20	-0.7	23.1
21	-0.5	26.9
22	-0.3	35.7
23	-0.2	40.9
24	0.0	47.6
25	+0.2	57.7
26	+0.4	65.0
27	+0.5	72.7
28	+0.7	80.8
29	+0.9	85.0
30	+1.1	88.1
31	+1.2	93.4
32	+1.4	96.2
33	+1.6	97.2
34	+1.8	99.0
35	+2.0	100.0

Mean = 29.293
SD = 7.127
Range = 35
Kurtosis = .000
Skewness = -.405
Mode = 30.0

Table 16.12
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Family and Community Support Caucasian Families (N=286)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-9	-2.6	1.0
10	-2.5	1.4
11	-2.3	1.7
12	-2.2	2.1
13	-2.0	3.5
14	-1.9	3.8
15	-1.7	5.2
16	-1.6	7.7
17	-1.4	10.1
18	-1.3	12.6
19	-1.2	15.0
20	-1.0	18.2
21	-0.9	21.7
22	-0.7	25.2
23	-0.6	29.7
24	-0.4	33.9
25	-0.3	39.5
26	-0.2	44.1
27	0.0	52.1
28	+0.1	56.6
29	+0.3	60.8
30	+0.4	65.7
31	+0.6	72.7
32	+0.7	76.2
33	+0.9	81.1
34	+1.0	86.0
35	+1.1	89.9
36	+1.3	92.7
37	+1.4	95.1
38	+1.6	95.8
39	+1.7	97.6
40	+1.9	99.0
41-42	+2.1	99.3
43	+2.3	99.7
44-45	+2.6	100.0

Mean = 27.045
SD = 6.938
Range = 86
Kurtosis = -.284
Skewness = -.232
Mode = 27.0

Table 16.13
Families of Youth in Residential Treatment Program Family Coping Index Affirming Family's
Confidence Caucasian Families (N=286)

Raw Scores	Standard Scores	Cumulative Percentiles
0-9	-4.2	.3
10-14	-3.2	.7
15-16	-2.8	1.0
17-18	-2.4	1.7
19	-2.2	2.1
20	-2.1	3.8
21-22	-1.6	6.3
23	-1.4	9.8
24	-1.2	15.4
25	-1.0	18.9
26	-0.8	23.8
27	-0.6	29.0
28	-0.4	33.9
29	-0.2	39.2
30	0.0	46.9
31	+0.2	53.8
32	+0.4	65.7
33	+0.6	72.4
34	+0.8	80.1
35	+1.0	85.7
36	+1.2	91.3
37	+1.4	95.5
38	+1.5	97.39
39	+1.7	98.6
40	+1.9	100.0

Mean = 30.192
SD = 5.040
Range = 31
Kurtosis = .601
Skewness = -.618
Mode = 32.0

FAMCI

FAMILY COPING INDEX

English Version



FAMCI

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Directions

First, read the list of "Response Choices" one at a time. Second, decide how well each statement describes your attitudes and behavior in response to problems or difficulties. If the statement describes your response very well, then circle the number 6 indicating that you **Strongly Agree**, if the statement does not describe your response at all, then circle the number 1 indicating that you **Strongly Disagree**; if the statement describes your response to some degree, then select a number 2, 3, or 4 to indicate how much you agree or disagree with the statement about your response.

<i>When we face problems or difficulties in our family, we respond by:</i>	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Neutral	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
1. Sharing our difficulties with relatives	1	2	3	4	5
2. Seeking encouragement and support from friends	1	2	3	4	5
3. Knowing we have the power to solve major problems	1	2	3	4	5
4. Seeking information and advice from persons in other families who have faced the same or similar problems	1	2	3	4	5
5. Seeking advice from relatives (grandparents, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
6. Seeking assistance from community agencies and programs designed to help families in our situation	1	2	3	4	5
7. Knowing that we have the strength within our own family to solve our problems	1	2	3	4	5
8. Receiving gifts and favors from neighbors (e.g., food, taking in mail, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
9. Seeking information and advice from the family doctor	1	2	3	4	5
10. Asking neighbors for favors and assistance	1	2	3	4	5
11. Facing the problems "head-on" and trying to get a solution right away	1	2	3	4	5
12. Showing that we are strong	1	2	3	4	5

<i>When we face problems or difficulties in our family, we respond by:</i>	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Neutral	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
13. Attending church services	1	2	3	4	5
14. Sharing concerns with close friends	1	2	3	4	5
15. Accepting that difficulties occur unexpectedly	1	2	3	4	5
16. Doing things with relatives (get-togethers, dinners, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
17. Seeking professional counseling and help for family difficulties	1	2	3	4	5
18. Believing we can handle our own problems	1	2	3	4	5
19. Participating in church activities	1	2	3	4	5
20. Defining the family problem in a more positive way so that we do not become too discouraged	1	2	3	4	5
21. Asking relatives how they feel about problems we face	1	2	3	4	5
22. Seeking advice from a minister	1	2	3	4	5
23. Sharing problems with neighbors	1	2	3	4	5
24. Having faith in God	1	2	3	4	5