

SA-1. Social Readjustment Rating Scale¹²

Instructions: Circle the number of any event which has occurred in your life over the past 12 months. Add up the numbers for your total score. When you are done, turn to the next page for score interpretation.

Event	Scale of Impact	Event	Scale of Impact
Death of spouse	100	Son or daughter leaving home	29
Divorce	73	Change in responsibility at work	29
Marital separation	65	Outstanding personal achievement	28
Jail term	63	Spouse begins/stops work	26
Death of close family member	63	Begin or end school	26
Personal injury or illness	53	Change in living conditions	25
Marriage	50	Revision of personal habits	24
Fired at work	47	Trouble with boss	23
Marital reconciliation	45	Change in work hours or conditions	20
Retirement	45	Change in residence	20
Change in health of family member	44	Change in schools	20
Pregnancy	39	Change in recreation	19
Sex difficulties	39	Change in church activity	19
Gain of new family member	39	Change in social activity	18
Business readjustment	39	Small mortgage or loan	17
Change in financial state	38	Change in sleep habits	16
Death of a close friend	37	Change in number of family get-togethers	15
Change to a different line of work	36	Change in eating habits	15
Change in number of arguments with spouse	35	Vacation	13
High mortgage	31	Christmas	12
Foreclosure of mortgage or loan	31	Minor violations of the law	11
Trouble with in-laws	29	TOTAL SCORE	

¹² The Social Readjustment Rating Scale was designed to reflect the cumulative stress to which an individual has been exposed over a period of time (Holmes & Holmes, 1970; Holmes and Rahe, 1967, Rahe and Arthur, 1978). "Life change units" are used to measure life stress in the areas noted above.

Score Interpretation

Score	Interpretation
150-199	If your current level of stress continues and/or you do not adopt effective stress management strategies, you have a 37% chance of a minor illness in the next two years.
200-299	If your stress level continues and you do nothing to change your adaptive strategies, you have a 51% chance of developing a major illness in the next two years.
>300	You have a 79% chance of a major health breakdown in the next two years. It is recommended that you begin adding effective coping strategies to your life style.

Note:

Major life stressors may impact decision making. When an individual is in danger of suffering the ill effects of life crises, it is best to limit as much as possible any additional disruption. As an example, if someone recently lost a loved one or lost a job, it may be best to wait until some time has passed before making a major decision like looking for another job or moving to another town.

Questions to Consider:

Does your score seem to accurately reflect the level of stress in your life as you see it? Why or why not?

What does your perception of life events have to do with the effects of stress on you?

SA-2. How Vulnerable Are You To Stress?¹³

Instructions: Rate each item from 1 (always) to 5 (never), according to how much of the time the statement is true of you. Be sure to mark each item, even if it does not apply to you - for example, if you don't smoke, circle 1 next to item six.

	Always		Sometimes		Never
1. I eat at least one hot, balanced meal a day.	1	2	3	4	5
2. I get 7-8 hours of sleep at least four nights a week.	1	2	3	4	5
3. I give and receive affection regularly.	1	2	3	4	5
4. I have at least one relative within 50 miles, on whom I can rely.	1	2	3	4	5
5. I exercise to the point of perspiration at least twice a week.	1	2	3	4	5
6. I limit myself to less than half a pack of cigarettes a day.	1	2	3	4	5
7. I take fewer than five alcohol drinks a week.	1	2	3	4	5
8. I am the appropriate weight for my height.	1	2	3	4	5
9. I have an income adequate to meet basic expenses.	1	2	3	4	5
10. I get strength from my religious beliefs.	1	2	3	4	5
11. I regularly attend club or social activities.	1	2	3	4	5
12. I have a network of friends and acquaintances.	1	2	3	4	5
13. I have one or more friends to confide in about personal matters.	1	2	3	4	5
14. I am in good health (including eye-sight, hearing, and teeth).	1	2	3	4	5
15. I am able to speak openly about my feelings when angry or worried.	1	2	3	4	5
16. I have regular conversations with the people I live with about domestic problems - for example, chores and money.	1	2	3	4	5
17. I do something for fun at least once a week.	1	2	3	4	5
18. I am able to organize my time effectively.	1	2	3	4	5
19. I drink fewer than three cups of coffee (or other caffeine-rich drinks) a day.	1	2	3	4	5
20. I take some quiet time for myself during the day.	1	2	3	4	5

¹³ University of California, Berkeley Wellness Letter, August 1985. Scale Developers: Lyle Miller and Alma Dell Smith of Boston University Medical Center.

<p>Scoring Instructions:</p> <p>To calculate your score, add up the figures and subtract 20.</p> <p>Total score _____ - 20 = _____</p>	<p>When creating your Self Care Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Notice that nearly all the items describe situations and behaviors over which you have a great deal of control. ◆ Review the items on which you scored three or higher. ◆ Consider those items for your self-care plan. ◆ Concentrate first on those that are easiest to change - for example, eating a hot, balanced meal daily and having fun at least once a week - before tackling those that seem more difficult. ◆ If useful, fine tune your results using the table below.¹⁴ ◆ Remember to celebrate your accomplishments along the way!
<p>Score Interpretation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A score below 10 indicates excellent resistance to stress. ✓ A score over 30 indicates some vulnerability to stress; ✓ A score over 50 indicates serious vulnerability to stress. <p>If your score falls between defined ranges, use the defined range closest to your score when you enter it on your Score Pattern Analysis worksheet.</p>	

To fine tune awareness of your areas of strength and vulnerability, average the scores for items as indicated below. You may choose to focus your self-care goals on areas in which average scores equal 3 or higher.

Category	Items	Average Score
Rest and Exercise	2	
	5	
	20	
Finances and Time Management	9	
	18	
Leisure & Lifestyle	10	
	11	
	17	
Social Support & Communication	3	
	4	
	12	
	13	
	15	
Nutrition	16	
	1	
	7	
Health & Fitness	19	
	6	
	8	
	14	

¹⁴ This activity was created by Figley Institute for self-care planning purposes.