

Scoring of SES Short Forms
Koss, M.P. and the SES Collaboration*
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All versions of the revised SES measure behavior that meets legal definitions of various sex crimes, with the exception of acts accomplished by verbal coercion not involving threats of physical harm. The acts accomplished by coercion are certainly on the sexual assault spectrum and they are of interest in many fields and settings, but it is important to clearly understand that they are not crimes. Feminist legal scholars argue that these acts should be forms of attempted rape and rape and recommend changing statutory definitions of rape as a goal for advocate policy reform.

Scoring of the SES—Short Form Perpetration

Scoring based on individual items

To estimate the frequency of each type of unwanted sex act and/or the rate of each tactic to compel unwanted sex, calculate the percentage of respondents who respond yes to each choice a through e for each item 1 through 7.

Ordinal Scoring

Reporting prevalence by category

To score prevalence of each category, use the following instructions. Note that this set of scoring rules will result in percentages that exceed 100% because respondents could have perpetrated more than one type of incident. The procedures for mutually exclusive scoring when the goal is to count people only once according to the most severe act perpetrated follow this section.

1. Non-perpetrator: responds 0 times to all items
2. Sexual Contact: any number of times >0 to item 1 for any strategy a through e
3. Attempted coercion: any number of times >0 to strategy a or strategy b for items 5, 6, or 7
4. Coercion: any number of times >0 to strategy a or strategy b for items 2, 3, or 4
5. Attempted rape: any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, or e on items 5, 6 or 7
6. Rape: any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, or e on items 2, 3, or 4

Scoring Mutually Exclusive Categories

To create non-redundant scores, use the following instructions to place each person into the category of their most severe experience. These scoring rules result in category percentages that add to 100%.

1. Non-perpetrator: all 7 items checked 0 times on a, b, c, d, e
2. Sexual Contact: any number of times >0 to item 1 for any strategy a through e and no to all other items
3. Attempted Coercion: any number of times >0 for strategy a or strategy b for items 5, 6, or 7 and 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on all items
4. Coercion—any number of times >0 for strategy a or strategy b for items 2, 3, or 4 and 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on all items
5. Attempted rape—any number of times >0 for strategies c, d, & e on items 5, 6, or 7 and reported 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on items 2, 3, and 4, regardless of responses to strategies a & b for any item.
6. Rape—any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, & e on items 2, 3, and 4, regardless of responses to any other items (including responses to strategies a and b for any item)

Scoring of the SES—Short Form Victimization

Scoring based on individual items

To estimate the frequency of each type of unwanted sexual victimization and/or the rate of each tactic used to compel unwanted sex, calculate the percentage of respondents who respond yes to each choice a through e for each item 1 through 7.

Ordinal scoring

Reporting prevalence by category

To score prevalence of each category, use the following instructions. Note that this set of scoring rules will result in percentages that exceed 100% because respondents could have had more than one type of incident. The procedures for mutually exclusive scoring when the goal is to count people only once according to the most severe act experienced follow this section.

1. Non-victim: responds 0 times to all items
2. Sexual Contact: any number of times >0 to item 1 for any strategy a through e
3. Attempted coercion: any number of times >0 to strategy a or strategy b for items 5, 6, or 7
4. Coercion: any number of times >0 to strategy a or strategy b for items 2, 3, or 4
5. Attempted rape: any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, or e on items 5, 6 or 7
6. Rape: any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, or e on items 2, 3, or 4

Scoring Mutually Exclusive Categories

To create non-redundant scores, use the following instructions to place each person into the category of their most severe experience. These scoring rules result in category percentages that add to 100%.

1. Non-victim: all 7 items checked 0 times on a, b, c, d, e
2. Sexual Contact: any number of times >0 to item 1 for any strategy a through e and no to all other items
3. Attempted Coercion: any number of times >0 for strategy a or strategy b for items 5, 6, or 7 and 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on all items
4. Coercion—any number of times >0 for strategy a or strategy b for items 2, 3, or 4 and 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on all items
5. Attempted rape—any number of times >0 for strategies c, d, & e on items 5, 6, or 7 and reported 0 times to strategies c, d, & e on items 2, 3, and 4, regardless of responses to strategies a & b for any item.
6. Rape—any number of times >0 to strategies c, d, & e on items 2, 3, and 4, regardless of responses to any other items (including responses to strategies a and b for any item)

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