International Physical Activity Questionnaire - Short Form

**Overview**

• This measure assesses the types of intensity of physical activity and sitting time that people do as part of their daily lives are considered to estimate total physical activity in MET-min/week and time spent sitting.

**Subscales**

• None

• Sample items from the scale:
  > During the last 7 days, on how many days did you do vigorous physical activities like heavy lifting, digging, aerobics, or fast bicycling?

**Stepping up Theme(s) & Outcome(s)**

• Health & Wellness
  > Youth are physically healthy

**Target Population**

• Youth 15 years of age and older

**Length & How it is Measured**

• 7 items

• Open-ended questions surrounding individuals’ last 7-day recall of physical activity

• Self-report, paper-pencil version or orally

• Available in: English and many other languages

**Developer**

• International Physical Activity Questionnaire, 1998

**Psychometrics**

• Reliability
  
  Test-rest reliability indicated good stability

  High reliability ($\alpha < .80$)

• Validity
  
  Predictive validity

  Concurrent validity

  Convergent validity

  Criterion validity

  Discriminant validity

**Good to Know**

• Used by the Ontario Trillium Foundation

• Click here for Guidelines for Data Processing and Analysis of the International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ) - Short Form

**Learn More**


INTERNATIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE  
(August 2002)  

SHORT LAST 7 DAYS SELF-ADMINISTERED FORMAT  

FOR USE WITH YOUNG AND MIDDLE-AGED ADULTS (15-69 years)  

The International Physical Activity Questionnaires (IPAQ) comprises a set of 4 questionnaires. Long (5 activity domains asked independently) and short (4 generic items) versions for use by either telephone or self-administered methods are available. The purpose of the questionnaires is to provide common instruments that can be used to obtain internationally comparable data on health–related physical activity.  

Background on IPAQ  
The development of an international measure for physical activity commenced in Geneva in 1998 and was followed by extensive reliability and validity testing undertaken across 12 countries (14 sites) during 2000. The final results suggest that these measures have acceptable measurement properties for use in many settings and in different languages, and are suitable for national population-based prevalence studies of participation in physical activity.  

Using IPAQ  
Use of the IPAQ instruments for monitoring and research purposes is encouraged. It is recommended that no changes be made to the order or wording of the questions as this will affect the psychometric properties of the instruments.  

Translation from English and Cultural Adaptation  
Translation from English is supported to facilitate worldwide use of IPAQ. Information on the availability of IPAQ in different languages can be obtained at www.ipaq.ki.se. If a new translation is undertaken we highly recommend using the prescribed back translation methods available on the IPAQ website. If possible please consider making your translated version of IPAQ available to others by contributing it to the IPAQ website. Further details on translation and cultural adaptation can be downloaded from the website.  

Further Developments of IPAQ  
International collaboration on IPAQ is on-going and an International Physical Activity Prevalence Study is in progress. For further information see the IPAQ website.  

More Information  
INTERNATIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE

We are interested in finding out about the kinds of physical activities that people do as part of their everyday lives. The questions will ask you about the time you spent being physically active in the last 7 days. Please answer each question even if you do not consider yourself to be an active person. Please think about the activities you do at work, as part of your house and yard work, to get from place to place, and in your spare time for recreation, exercise or sport.

Think about all the vigorous activities that you did in the last 7 days. Vigorous physical activities refer to activities that take hard physical effort and make you breathe much harder than normal. Think only about those physical activities that you did for at least 10 minutes at a time.

1. During the last 7 days, on how many days did you do vigorous physical activities like heavy lifting, digging, aerobics, or fast bicycling?
   _____ days per week
   □ No vigorous physical activities ➔ Skip to question 3

2. How much time did you usually spend doing vigorous physical activities on one of those days?
   _____ hours per day
   _____ minutes per day
   □ Don’t know/Not sure

Think about all the moderate activities that you did in the last 7 days. Moderate activities refer to activities that take moderate physical effort and make you breathe somewhat harder than normal. Think only about those physical activities that you did for at least 10 minutes at a time.

3. During the last 7 days, on how many days did you do moderate physical activities like carrying light loads, bicycling at a regular pace, or doubles tennis? Do not include walking.
   _____ days per week
   □ No moderate physical activities ➔ Skip to question 5
4. How much time did you usually spend doing moderate physical activities on one of those days?

______ hours per day
_______ minutes per day

☐ Don’t know/Not sure

Think about the time you spent walking in the last 7 days. This includes at work and at home, walking to travel from place to place, and any other walking that you have done solely for recreation, sport, exercise, or leisure.

5. During the last 7 days, on how many days did you walk for at least 10 minutes at a time?

______ days per week

☐ No walking → Skip to question 7

6. How much time did you usually spend walking on one of those days?

______ hours per day
_______ minutes per day

☐ Don’t know/Not sure

The last question is about the time you spent sitting on weekdays during the last 7 days. Include time spent at work, at home, while doing course work and during leisure time. This may include time spent sitting at a desk, visiting friends, reading, or sitting or lying down to watch television.

7. During the last 7 days, how much time did you spend sitting on a week day?

______ hours per day
_______ minutes per day

☐ Don’t know/Not sure

This is the end of the questionnaire, thank you for participating.