



GG-FSI™ | COMMUNITY PRACTITIONER FIELD INSTRUMENT

Gentle-Genitty Family Stability Index™

A conversation guide that helps practitioners see the strengths and pressures shaping a family's daily routines, participation, safety, health, and wellbeing. A research-development tool, separate from any diagnosis, eligibility test, or professional safety assessment.



Version 1.0

October 2026

Large-print field edition

FAMILY / HOUSEHOLD ID _____ DATE _____

PRACTITIONER _____ SETTING _____ RESPONDENT ROLE _____

How we use it

- 1 Talk about the family's experience during the **past 30 days**.
- 2 Read each statement. The respondent circles the answer that fits their family.
- 3 Use the respondent's own view. Record their answer, never a guess.
- ! Safety concern? Follow your organization's safety, reporting, emergency, or referral steps.

Our answer scale

Higher number = steadier ground



0

Never / Not at all true

This support or condition is absent right now.



1

Rarely

Present once in a while; hard to count on.



2

Sometimes

Present part of the time; partly dependable.



3

Often

Present most of the time; usually dependable.



4

Almost always / Completely true

Consistent, reliable, and strongly present.



1 • Economic Stability Money for the basics

E1	Our household can meet basic expenses such as food, utilities, transportation, and essential clothing.	0	1	2	3	4
E2	Our household income or financial resources are predictable enough to plan for the next month.	0	1	2	3	4
E3	An unexpected expense would not cause us to miss an essential household payment.	0	1	2	3	4
E4	Adults in the household can maintain work, education, or other income-producing responsibilities without major financial disruption.	0	1	2	3	4
E5	We have reliable access to the money or resources needed for a child's ordinary school and developmental needs.	0	1	2	3	4



2 • Housing, Environment & Mobility A safe place and a way to get there

H1	Our household has a safe and dependable place to live.	0	1	2	3	4
H2	We expect to remain in our current housing, or another suitable housing arrangement, without an involuntary move in the near future.	0	1	2	3	4
H3	Our home environment is adequate for sleep, study, privacy, and daily family routines.	0	1	2	3	4
H4	Our family can reliably get to school, work, healthcare, and other essential places.	0	1	2	3	4
H5	The places our family spends time are sufficiently safe for children and caregivers.	0	1	2	3	4



3 • Health Stability Feeling well and getting care

HE1	Children and caregivers can obtain needed physical healthcare when it is needed.	0	1	2	3	4
HE2	Health conditions in the household are managed well enough to maintain ordinary routines.	0	1	2	3	4
HE3	The household can obtain needed behavioral or mental-health support without major disruption.	0	1	2	3	4
HE4	A caregiver's health does not regularly prevent the family from meeting essential responsibilities.	0	1	2	3	4
HE5	Medication, treatment, appointments, or other health needs can be maintained without repeatedly disrupting school, work, or caregiving.	0	1	2	3	4



4 • Caregiving & Routine Stability Grown-ups we count on

C1	A dependable adult is available to meet children's basic needs each day.	0	1	2	3	4
C2	Our family has predictable morning, evening, sleep, meal, and school/work routines.	0	1	2	3	4
C3	Childcare or supervision is dependable when caregivers are working, studying, or unavailable.	0	1	2	3	4
C4	Caregivers can coordinate responsibilities with one another or with trusted supports.	0	1	2	3	4
C5	When something unexpected happens, our family can reorganize responsibilities without losing essential routines.	0	1	2	3	4



5 • Education & Developmental Stability Learning and growing

ED1	Children in the household can attend school or educational activities consistently.	0	1	2	3	4
ED2	Children have the materials, technology, transportation, and adult support needed to participate in learning.	0	1	2	3	4
ED3	School schedules and family schedules can be coordinated without repeated disruption.	0	1	2	3	4
ED4	When a child has an attendance, learning, or developmental concern, the family can connect with the appropriate school or service.	0	1	2	3	4
ED5	Children have predictable opportunities for structured, safe, age-appropriate activities outside the classroom.	0	1	2	3	4



6 • Relational, Social & Community People in our corner

R1	Children have at least one dependable adult they can turn to when they need help.	0	1	2	3	4
R2	Family members can communicate about important problems without the situation regularly becoming unsafe or unmanageable.	0	1	2	3	4
R3	The household has people or organizations it can call on when it needs practical or emotional support.	0	1	2	3	4
R4	Children are generally protected from serious violence, threats, or destructive conflict in the places where they live and spend time.	0	1	2	3	4
R5	The family feels connected to at least one supportive school, community, faith, cultural, neighborhood, or social network.	0	1	2	3	4



Family Stability Reserve™ Our backup power

FSR1	If our household experienced a sudden expense, we could keep essential needs covered.	0	1	2	3	4
FSR2	If a caregiver became unavailable for several days, we could maintain essential caregiving.	0	1	2	3	4
FSR3	If transportation failed unexpectedly, we have another workable way to reach essential destinations.	0	1	2	3	4
FSR4	If our housing circumstances changed unexpectedly, we have a realistic backup plan or support.	0	1	2	3	4
FSR5	If a child suddenly needed additional support, we know who or what to contact.	0	1	2	3	4
FSR6	When our family experiences a major problem, we usually recover our routines within a reasonable period.	0	1	2	3	4

A Critical Safety Check Kept separate from the family score. Any YES: follow your safety procedures.

Is a child or caregiver currently in immediate physical danger?	Y ☐ N ☐	Is there current serious violence, abuse, exploitation, or a credible threat of violence?	Y ☐ N ☐
Is the family currently without safe shelter or facing imminent loss of safe shelter?	Y ☐ N ☐	Does a child currently lack essential supervision or caregiving needed for safety?	Y ☐ N ☐
Is there an acute health or behavioral-health situation requiring immediate professional intervention?	Y ☐ N ☐		

B Scoring Sheet Domain score = raw ÷ 20 × 100

DOMAIN	RAW	0—100
1 Economic	___ /20	_____
2 Housing / Mobility	___ /20	_____
3 Health	___ /20	_____
4 Caregiving / Routine	___ /20	_____
5 Education / Development	___ /20	_____
6 Relational / Community	___ /20	_____
Family Stability Score Average of six domain scores		FSS _____ / 100

C Provisional Interpretation

85–100	STABLE	Conditions generally support consistent functioning.
70–84	WATCH	Emerging vulnerability; prevention or monitoring may help.
50–69	STRAINED	Meaningful barriers affect one or more areas.
30–49	UNSTABLE	Significant disruption across important areas.
0–29	CRITICAL	Severe instability; coordinated assessment is warranted.

D Family Stability Reserve™

FSR = six reserve items total ÷ 24 × 100

FSR _____ / 100

A research-development measure of the family's ability to absorb disruption. Read it as a planning signal, separate from any clinical or financial solvency score.

E Cross-Domain Interaction Count domains below 70

DOMAINS	LEVEL	OBSERVATION
0—1	LOW	_____
2	MODERATE	_____
3—4	HIGH	_____
5—6 or safety	SEVERE	_____

Examples: housing + transportation; health + caregiving; economic + housing; caregiving + education. Record the connection the family names.

F Family Stability Action Map Strengths first, then the family's own priorities

#	STRENGTH / CONCERN	FAMILY'S PRIORITY	NEXT ACTION / REFERRAL	REVIEW
1	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____	_____

Family's strongest protective factor: _____

Family's most important concern: _____

What would "more stable" look like to this family? _____

G Practitioner Field-Testing Notes Help shape Version 2.0

Questions hard to understand? _____	Questions that felt repetitive? _____
Important area missing? _____	Change before next version? _____
Did the score reflect what you observed in practice? ☐ Yes ☐ Partly ☐ No	

H · Research-use statement. This Version 1.0 instrument is being field-tested to establish clarity, feasibility, reliability, validity, fairness, and usefulness. Practitioners should not use the numerical score by itself to determine child-protection action, service eligibility, school exclusion, healthcare access, housing eligibility, or other high-stakes decisions.

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