

Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL)

Brief description

The **Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL)** is a component of the Achenbach System of Empirically Based Assessment (ASEBA). The ASEBA is used to detect behavioural and emotional problems in children and adolescents. The CBCL is completed by parents. The other two components are the Teacher's Report Form (TRF) (completed by teachers), and the Youth Self-Report (YSR) (completed by the child or adolescent himself or herself). The 2001 revision of the CBCL, the CBCL/6-18 (used with children 6 to 18), is made up of eight syndrome scales:

- anxious/depressed
- depressed
- somatic complaints
- social problems
- thought problems
- attention problems
- rule-breaking behaviour
- aggressive behaviour.

These group into two higher order factors—internalizing and externalizing. The time frame for item responses is the past six months.

The 2001 revision also added six DSM-oriented scales consistent with DSM diagnostic categories:

- affective problems
- anxiety problems
- somatic problems
- ADHD
- oppositional defiant problems
- conduct problems.

The CBCL (and the YSR) are also scored on (optional) competence scales for activities, social relations, school and total competence. In 2001, options for multicultural norms were added allowing scale scores to be displayed in relation to different sets of cultural/societal norms. Scales were also added for obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Child Behavior Checklist

The CBCL consists of 113 questions, scored on a three-point Likert scale (0=absent, 1= occurs sometimes, 2=occurs often).

Appropriate target populations

Youth 6 to 18 years of age.

Administration options

Formats available

- self-administered (paper-and-pencil)
- self-administered (computer)
- clinician-administered

Items are self-administered, or given verbally if literacy is too low.

Time required

The problem items can be completed by most parents in about 10 minutes and the optional competence items in another 5 to 10 minutes.

Languages available

- English
- French
- Other (Translations are available in almost 60 languages.)

Accessibility and cost

- no charge for use
- use requires permission of test developer
- use requires special training and/or professional or academic credentials
- fee for use (Contact ASEBA for pricing; currently \$295 for single user license.)

Where to access

ASEBA / Research Center for Children, Youth and Families
1 South Prospect Street
St. Joseph's Wing (3rd Floor, Room 3207)
Burlington, VT 05401
Telephone Number: 802-656-5130

E-mail (for orders and inquiries): mail@aseba.org

www.aseba.org

Eligibility to purchase ASEBA materials is determined on the basis of professional degree, licensing, relevant experience and acceptance of the conditions listed on the website (please see www.aseba.org for more information). The training required may differ according to the ways in which the data are to be used. Graduate training of at least the Master's degree level would ordinarily be expected.

Summary of test development data

Quality of reporting

High, based on STARD rating (see Appendix, p .76).

Summary of validity and reliability data

High, based largely on the variety and strength of the reliability and validity data across so many languages and cultural contexts.