

A brief, parent-completed screening tool that gathers important information about the home environments of children and helps guide decision-making about referral options.

Type of screening	Social determinants of health/environmental conditions
Purposes	Identifies risk and protective factors in a child’s environment; helps professionals consider families’ needs, organize referral information, and monitor outcomes for families.
Areas covered	Education and Employment; Housing; Child and Family Health; Economics and Finances; Family Life; and Community
Age range	Birth through 6 years
Who completes it	Parents and caregivers
Who scores and uses results	Home visitors, parent educators, early interventionists, Head Start and Early Head Start professionals, social workers, pediatricians
Number of questions	30 questions
Sample Questions	<i>Have you or your child/children witnessed violence in your home or neighborhood?</i> (Housing) <i>Do you worry about having enough food for your family?</i> (Economics and Finances)
Time to complete	ESQ takes 10–15 minutes to complete by interview or independently
Time to score	2–3 minutes
Scores provided	6 raw scores, one for each area, plus overall score
Training	Specific training is not needed to use the tool, but professionals need background or training in working with diverse families and families exposed to environmental challenges.
Available languages	English and Spanish
Research	A study with 324 parent–child dyads (72 recruited from social services agencies in a mid-sized suburban city in the northwestern United States and 252 parent–child dyads recruited online from 24 U.S. states) was published in Fall 2015 ¹ . The study found a correlation with ESQ and Parenting Stress Index-Short Form (PSI-SF) scores for the online sample. In addition, the ESQ showed moderate correlations with the ASQ:SE for the online sample at 6 and 48 month intervals and with ASQ:SE cutoff scores at 60 months. Utility measures showed that professionals found ESQ to be helpful in assessing family needs, and that caregivers were able to complete the tool in a relatively short period of time .

¹Moxley-South, K., Squires, J., Lindstrom, L., & Kerewsky, S.D. (2015). The Environmental Screening Questionnaire: A brief family risk and resilience screening. *Journal of Human Services, 35*, 1, 62–72.