

Material and Time Affluence Scale (MATAS)

The MATAS assesses the extent to which individuals experience feelings of both material and time affluence (vs. material and time poverty). The scale was published in this article:

Kasser, T., & Sheldon, K. M. (2009). Time affluence as a path towards personal happiness and ethical business practices: Empirical evidence from four studies. *Journal of Business Ethics, 84*, 243-255.

We collected data on the MATAS in three U.S. samples of college students and adults, assessing material and time affluence “in the last six months or so,” “in the past month or so,” and “in the last 24 hours.” Table III of Kasser & Sheldon (2009) provides factor analytic results supporting the proposed two factors of the MATAS and the loadings of specific items.

The scale has also been used with adolescents (Manolis & Roberts, 2012, *Applied Research in Quality of Life*), managers in Turkey (Burke, Koyuncu, Fiksenbaum, & Demirer (2012, *Cross-cultural Management*) and Egypt (Burke & El-Kot, 2009, *International Journal of Industrial Relations and Human Resources*), professional women in Russia (Burke, Astakhova, & Singh, 2014, *Employee Relations*), and commuters in the U.S. (LaJeunesse & Rodriguez, 2012, *Transportation Research Part F*).

Think about the past month or so. On the line next to each statement, write down the number representing how much you agree or disagree with each statement, using this scale:

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

- ___1. My life has been too rushed.*
- ___2. I have had enough money to buy the things that are important to me.
- ___3. I have had plenty of spare time.
- ___4. There has not been enough money to go around.*
- ___5. I have been racing from here to there.*
- ___6. I have been able to buy what I want.
- ___7. I have had enough time to do what I need to do.
- ___8. I have felt like I'm pretty poor.*
- ___9. I have been able to take life at a leisurely pace.
- ___10. My bank account has been too low.*
- ___11. There have not been enough minutes in the day.*
- ___12. I have had enough money to buy what I need to buy.
- ___13. I have had enough time to do the things that are important to me.
- ___14. I have been broke.*
- ___15. I have felt like things have been really hectic.*
- ___16. I have had plenty of spare money.

* = reverse coded items

Material affluence = Mean (2, 4(reversed), 6, 8(reversed), 10(reversed), 12, 14(reversed), 16).

Time affluence = Mean (1(reversed), 3, 5(reversed), 7, 9, 11(reversed), 13, 15 (reversed)).