

Montgomery County Acuity Scale for Singles

Start Date *

[first day of the period that current Acuity Score covers]

Assessment Type:* [check one]

- ☐ Initial
- ☐ 6 Month Update
- ☐ Annual Update
- ☐ Major Life Change

Acuity is an assessment of the complex strengths and challenges of our clients. It is used to determine the level and frequency of housing support and case management services required to promote housing stability, personal recovery, and self-sufficiency. The Acuity Scale should be used in combination with the VI- or Full SPDAT to determine both the type of housing (PSH, RRH, limited case management/emergency services) and the level of support services.

Using your professional judgment, review the description for each service needs indicator and select the option that best describes the client's situation. *If the client's situation falls in between two categories, choose the **lower point option**.* Follow the instructions for each section. You must answer every question. If you feel a question does not apply to the client, select the lowest score option for that indicator. When completing this assessment, consider the client's situation over the **last six months**. The tool is broken up into four sections to capture the client's overall acuity.

Part 1 Economic Indicators

1=Very low needs, 2=Low needs, 3=Medium needs, 4=High needs, 5=Very high needs

Income and Benefits

For this indicator income is considered any funds that the client receives on a consistent basis, including food stamps, temporary disability (TDAP), retirement or disability benefits from SSA, alimony, etc. However, cash from "under the table" or odd jobs should **NOT** be considered.

- ☐ 1=Income is sufficient, well managed & client is willing to save AND can likely afford housing without a subsidy
- ☐ 2=Income consists of public benefits & employment and client can meet basic needs, BUT can't afford housing without some kind of subsidy
- ☐ 3=Income consists of **only** public cash benefits (SNAP, SSI/SSDI, TDAP, etc.) & can meet basic needs, BUT can't afford housing without a subsidy
- ☐ 4=Income consists of **only** public cash benefits (SNAP, SSI/SSDI, TDAP, etc.) or alimony that is less than \$500 per month AND client can't meet their basic needs
OR
4=Medicare only OR ineligible for Medicaid
- ☐ 5=No income
OR
5=No income AND ineligible for any public cash benefits (SNAP, SSI/SSDI, TDAP, etc.)

Money Management

- ☐ 1=Client has income that is well managed OR client has no income
- ☐ 2=Client has income AND requires some guidance on budgeting
- ☐ 3=Income is not well managed, BUT client is interested in money management guidance
- ☐ 4=Income is not well managed or client has debts WITHOUT a plan or interest in receiving money management guidance
- ☐ 5=Client has no available money because of chronic money management issues

Employment

For this indicator, please consider all type of employment and sources of income, including from "under the table," odd jobs, or other non-taxed income.

- ☐ 1=Maintains permanent employment with adequate income and benefits
- ☐ 2=Employed full-time with adequate pay and benefits
- ☐ 3=Employed full-time with inadequate pay AND with no benefits
- ☐ 4=Part-time or seasonal work with inadequate pay AND with no benefits
- ☐ 5=No job

Annual Income

- ☐ 1= \$65,001 or more
- ☐ 2=\$45,001-\$65,000
- ☐ 3=\$30,001-\$45,000
- ☐ 4= \$30,000 or less
- ☐ 5=\$0

Education

- ☐ 1=Completed some college education
- ☐ 2=Has high school diploma/GED AND enrolled in additional training program
- ☐ 3=Has high school diploma/GED
- ☐ 4=Has some education, BUT didn't complete high school
- ☐ 5=Literacy problems OR no high school diploma/GED AND no interest in obtaining additional education or training

Part 2 Demographic Indicators

1=Very low needs, 2=Low needs, 3=Medium needs, 4=High needs, 5=Very high needs

Age

- ☐ 1=Age 25-29
- ☐ 2=Age 30-39
- ☐ 3=Age 40-49
- ☐ 4=Age 50-59
- ☐ 5=Age 60+
OR
5=Age 15-24

Part 3 Social and Emotional Indicators

1=Very Low needs, 2=Low needs, 3=Medium needs, 4=High needs, 5=Very high needs

Domestic/Community Violence

- ☐ 1=No history of abuse OR currently housed & receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services
- ☐ 2=History of abuse
- ☐ 3=Staff suspect that domestic/community violence may be present
- ☐ 4=Domestic/community violence is present AND client acknowledges the abuse and seeks to change behavior
- ☐ 5=Domestic/community violence is present, BUT not acknowledged

Exploitation

- ☐ 1=No history of exploitation
- ☐ 2=History of exploitation
- ☐ 3=At risk for exploitation, e.g. based on gender identity, sexual orientation, or immigration status
- ☐ 4=Actively being exploited financially, sexually, or otherwise AND is willing to address the issue
- ☐ 5=Actively being exploited financially, sexually, or otherwise, BUT doesn't acknowledge this as an issue

Employability

- ☐ 1=Maintains permanent full-time employment with adequate income and benefits
- ☐ **OR**
- ☐ 1=Not in the workforce due to retirement or receiving disability benefits
- ☐ **OR**
- ☐ 1=Currently housed & receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services
- ☐ 2=Employed part-time or full-time with somewhat adequate pay and benefits
- ☐ 3=Causal day labor OR intermittent employment OR struggles with maintaining employment
- ☐ 4=Client is interested in employment, BUT has not found a job
- ☐ 5=Client has limited skills and is not working AND is not interested in employment/educational programs
- ☐ **OR**
- ☐ 5=Unable to obtain proper documentation to work

External Relations

- ☐ 1=Healthy and strong relationships with family/friends and actively involved in the community
- ☐ **OR**
- ☐ 1=Currently housed & receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services
- ☐ 2=Stable support from family/friends AND some community involvement, e.g. in support groups or volunteering
- ☐ 3=Intermittent support from family/friends AND client is interested in becoming involved in community activities
- ☐ 4=Lack of healthy or positive support from family/friends AND client is not interested in becoming involved in community activities
- ☐ 5=No family/friends present AND socially isolated

Life Skills

- ☐ 1=Able to meet all basic needs of daily living without assistance
- ☐ 2=Can meet almost all basic needs of daily living with staff assistance
- ☐ 3=Can meet some basic needs of daily living with staff assistance
- ☐ 4=Unable to meet basic needs of daily living, e.g. hygiene, eating, etc. AND requires intensive support services
- ☐ 5=Unable to meet basic needs of daily living, e.g. hygiene, eating, etc. AND not willing to accept assistance to address these needs

Part 4 Extreme Vulnerability Indicators

***For all HOUSED single adults currently receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services, select a "1" for all of the Extreme Vulnerability Indicators.**

1=Very low needs, 2=Low needs, 3=Medium needs, 4=High needs, & 200=Extreme Needs

Mental Health

- ☐ 1=No known mental health issues present
OR
1=Currently housed & receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services
- ☐ 2=Occasional mental health symptoms present that are usually triggered by life stressors AND only slight impairment in daily functioning
- ☐ 3=Mild mental health symptoms present AND moderate impairment in daily functioning
- ☐ 4=Presence of ongoing mental health symptoms that greatly impact the client's ability to function in daily life, including engaging with service providers to obtain income or housing, BUT client is not a danger to self or others at this time
- ☐ 200=Client has severe difficulties in daily life due to mental health symptoms AND client should be immediately connected to emergency services due to being a danger to self or others
OR
200=Client has severe difficulties in daily life due to mental health symptoms AND had more than two psychiatric hospitalizations in last six months

Substance Use

- ☐ 1=No known history of substance abuse and is not presently abusing any substance(s)
OR
1=Currently housed & receiving Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services
- ☐ 2=Client has a substance abuse problem, BUT has not used drugs or alcohol in the last 6 months
- ☐ 3=Client has used drugs or alcohol within the last 6 months
- ☐ **OR**
3=Evidence of ongoing social, occupational, emotional, or physical problems exist due to substance abuse AND client is participating in any type of substance abuse treatment
- ☐ 4=Client uses drugs or alcohol on a daily basis OR preoccupation with drugs/alcohol resulting in avoidance or neglect of basic needs AND client is willing to participate in services and/or is seeking program support
- ☐ 200=Client has severe substance abuse problem AND rehab. or immediate detox. is necessary for client's safety AND client may not acknowledge issues and/or refuses services

Medical Needs

- ☐ 1=No known ongoing medical issues
OR
☐ 1=Currently housed & receiving ACT services
- ☐ 2=Acute or chronic condition present AND receives regular medical care to address needs
- ☐ 3=Two or more acute or chronic medical issues present AND client is receiving medical care for at least one condition
- ☐ 4=Acute or chronic medical issue(s) present with inadequate and/or sporadic medical care
- ☐ 200=Intensive medical needs present AND client immediately needs treatment/medication
- OR**
- ☐ 200=Client often uses emergency rooms for medical treatment AND at least 3 ER visits in the last six months

Cognitive Deficits

This indicator refers to issues with memory, decision-making, reasoning, planning, language, and attention. However, this indicator does NOT pertain to language barriers.

- ☐ 1=No known ongoing cognitive impairment
OR
☐ 1=Currently housed & receiving ACT services
- ☐ 2=Mild cognitive problems that don't appear to be a barrier to safe housing
- ☐ 3=Moderate cognitive problems that could be a barrier to safe behavior
- ☐ 4=Cognitive problems present/diagnosed AND actively receiving outside care to alleviate risk
- ☐ 200=Severe cognitive problems that could be barriers to safe behavior AND at risk for exploitation

To determine the overall Acuity Level, add up all the score on all the indicators. Remember, you should only have one score per indicator.

Part 1: Economic Indicators Total (5-25 points)

Part 2: Demographics Indicators Total (1-5 points)

Part 3: Social and Emotional Indicators Total (5-25 points)

Part 4: Extreme Vulnerability Score (4-800 points)

Total Acuity Score *

Acuity Level * [check one below]

- ☐ Low Acuity: 35 or below
- ☐ Mid Acuity: 36-49
- ☐ High Acuity: 50-313
- ☐ Extreme Acuity: 314+

Acuity Justification

Provide a brief snapshot of the client's situation and a brief explanation of why numeric scores were selected, particularly for Part 4: Extreme Vulnerability Indicators.

Acuity Completion Date *

Please enter the date this assessment was completed.

Acuity Completed by *