



Irvine – Minnesota Inventory



Purpose

This comprehensive **research** tool is intended to be an advance on existing instruments. It has been developed to collect data on physical environment features potentially linked to physical activity, for use in research on the relationship between the physical environment and physical activity.

Method

This is an observational audit, with street "segments" in residential neighbourhoods or commercial districts as the basis. A 'segment' is considered to be the equivalent of the single side of two street blocks.

Additional information is collected using geographic information systems (GIS) technology. This includes density, intersection patterns, street length and street width.

Brief description

The tool focuses on physical environment features that may be linked to walking and cycling.

It includes 162 items in four domains or areas that are potentially related to:

- Accessibility
- Pleasurability
- Human needs and comfort
- Safety.

Locating the instrument

Irvine-Minnesota Inventory instrument is downloadable from:
http://www.cpah.health.usyd.edu.au/pdfs/Irvine_MN_Inventory.pdf

Irvine-Minnesota Inventory code book is downloadable from:
http://www.cpah.health.usyd.edu.au/pdfs/Final_Codebook.1.pdf
http://www.cpah.health.usyd.edu.au/pdfs/Final_Codebook.2.pdf
http://www.cpah.health.usyd.edu.au/pdfs/Final_Codebook.3.pdf

Contact for more information

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Related References and Links

Active Living Research website

http://www.activelivingresearch.org/index.php/Irvine_Minnesota_Inventory/334

Centre for Physical Activity and Health – Apr 2006 Paper of the Month

Development of a comprehensive tool for auditing characteristics of the built environment relevant to physical activity

Day K et al. *The Irvine-Minnesota Inventory to measure built environments: development*. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2006;30: 144-152. (Note: this article includes a critique of the SPACES tool and the St Louis tool)

Boarnet M et al. *The Irvine-Minnesota Inventory to measure built environments: reliability tests*. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2006;30: 153-159.

