

APPENDIX 18: FIELD TEST DIFFERENTIAL ITEM FUNCTIONING (DIF) CLASSIFICATION RULES

DICHOTOMOUS (MULTIPLE-CHOICE) DIF CLASSIFICATION

The Dichotomous (Multiple-Choice) DIF classification was defined as:

- Rule 1: $|\hat{\Delta}_{MH}| < 1.0$ was classified as A.
- Rule 2: $1.0 \leq |\hat{\Delta}_{MH}| < 1.5$ was classified as B.
- Rule 3: $1.5 \leq |\hat{\Delta}_{MH}|$ was classified as C.

POLYTOMOUS (CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE) DIF CLASSIFICATION

The Polytomous (Constructed-Response) DIF classification was defined as:

- Rule 1: $|Z_{SMD}| < 2.00$ was classified as A.
- Rule 2: $2.00 \leq |Z_{SMD}| < 5.00$ was classified as B.
- Rule 3: $5.00 \leq |Z_{SMD}|$ was classified as C.

+ = Favors the Focal Group

- = Favors the Reference Group