

Reliability

&

Validity



Reliability

Reliability refers to the **CONSISTENCY** of a psychometric test

Internal Reliability

Consistency within the measure itself. E.g., whether all items (questions) within a scale are measuring the same thing

Internal Consistency

Assessment of homogeneity. How well different items in a scale that are intended to measure the same construct produce similar scores.

Split-half Reliability

A statistical assessment of the correlation between two halves of a scale. Items in a scale are split randomly in half and a correlation analysis conducted to assess reliability between the two halves.

External Reliability

Ability of a test/task to yield the same results over time (test-retest) or between raters (inter-rater)

Test-retest Reliability

Measurement of how stable a test or task remains after repeated use, or over time

Inter-rater Reliability

Assessment of the reliability of a test/task as scored by two different researchers (raters)

Validity

Validity refers to **ACCURACY** of a psychometric test

Internal Validity

Measure of whether results obtained can be attributed to cause and effect (ie., manipulation in the IV has caused a change in the DV)

Construct Validity

Whether the test is an accurate measure of the construct/ outcome it claims to

Criterion Validity

Degree to which a test can concurrently or predictively measure something

Concurrent Validity

How well a measure compares against another validated test measuring the same (or a very similar) construct. These must be tested at the same time.

Predictive Validity

Degree to which scores on a measure can accurately predict a future outcome

External Validity

The extent to which findings can be generalised beyond the sample and the research environment they were gathered in

Ecological Validity

The extent to which the task used in a research study is representative of real life

Face Validity

Subjective assessment of whether the items in a test appear to measure what they claim to measure.

Psychometric tests can be reliable but not valid, but they cannot be valid unless they are reliable