Honey and Mumford: Learning Style Questionnaire: Norm Group and Reliability

Norm Group

The LSQ presents two types of scores for each of the 4 learning styles, raw scores and percentile scores. Your raw score is the amount of statements that you agreed with relating to that specific learning style. Your percentile score is calculated by comparing your raw score to a group of others who have previously completed the LSQ. Your percentile score is the percent of individuals in this group who have scored equal to or lower than you. These groups we use for comparison are known as 'norm groups'. We have 2 norm groups, one for each version of the test. The 40 item LSQ norm group is made up of 53,820 people who have completed the 40 item version of the questionnaire. The 80 item LSQ norm group is made up of 56,584 people who have completed the 80 item version of the questionnaire.

The percentile scores are divided into the following categories showing your strength of your preference for each style:

The top 10% of scores – very strong preference
The next 20% of scores – strong preference
The middle 40% of score – moderate preference
The next 20% of scores – low preference
The bottom 10% of scores – very low preference

Reliability Evidence*

It is important to remember that the LSQ is not strictly a psychometric test and instead is a self-directed development tool. However it does has a high level of reliability, details of which are found below.

Test-retest reliability
Overall correlation 0.89 with a sample of 50 people.
Theorist: 0.95, Reflector: 0.92, Pragmatist: 0.87, Activist: 0.81.

Overlap between the Learning Styles

	Activist	Reflector	Theorist	Pragmatist
Activist	-	-0.013	0.097	0.299
Reflector	-0.013	-	0.71	0.42
Theorist	0.097	0.71	-	0.54
Pragmatist	0.299	0.42	0.54	-

This shows that the following learning styles are somewhat related:
- Reflector/Theorist
- Theorist/Pragmatist
- Reflector/Pragmatist
- Activist/Pragmatist

Dominant styles

A sample of 300 managers shows that it's common to have one or two strong preferences (59%) and that it's very unusual to have four strong preferences (2%).

One strong
preference: 35%

Two strong
preferences: 24%

Three strong
preferences: 20%

Four strong
preferences: 2%

No strong
preference: 19%

*All reliability calculations performed using the 80-item version of the LSQ.