

A photograph of two women sitting at a wooden table in a kitchen. The woman on the left has short grey hair and is wearing a white and red patterned cardigan. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a green and white patterned cardigan. They are both laughing heartily. In the background, there is a kitchen counter with various items, including a bowl of fruit and a knife block.

WAIS 5

Measure more with WAIS-5^{UK}

Over the last 60 years, the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale® (WAIS®) has become the most widely used measure of intelligence in adolescents and adults aged 16 to 90.

Consisting of a primary battery of 10 subtests that are used to appraise intellect and five cognitive domains — verbal comprehension, visual spatial,

fluid reasoning, working memory, and processing speed — the WAIS is the most reliable and comprehensive intelligence measure available.

Drawing on advanced psychometric research and our customers' invaluable feedback, the WAIS-5^{UK} features updated norms that reflect today's diverse population, expanded clinical utility, shorter administration time, and an improved user experience. To ensure precision when comparing cognitive ability and memory, the WAIS-5^{UK} is co-collected with the Wechsler Memory Scale®, Fifth UK Edition (WMS®-5^{UK}).

Pearson



Overview

Publication date

2026

Age range

16:0–90:11

Qualification level

C

Completion time

45 minutes for the 7-subtest FSIQ; 60 minutes for the 10 primary index subtests

Administration

Paper or Q-interactive®

Scoring options

Paper or Q-global®
or Q-interactive

Benefits

New norms

The UK validation project was carried out in 2024–2025, with data collected from a sample that reflects recent societal shifts and trends and matches the most current census on five key demographic variables.

Expanded clinical utility

- Broader construct coverage of working memory, fluid reasoning, and processing speed
 - Working memory: auditory, visual, spatial, capacity, and focus of attention
 - Fluid reasoning: verbal, visual, inductive, quantitative, and logical
 - Processing speed: verbal and visual
- New expanded index scores for increased interpretive clarity
 - Insight on discrepancies between two subtests in a primary index score
- Non-Verbal Index, Non-Motor Index, and Motor-Reduced Processing Speed Index scores
 - Offers improved interpretive clarity and measures of ability not confounded by expressive language or motor problems

Shorter administration time

- Comprehensive results in a shorter amount of time
 - 45 minutes for the FSIQ
 - Around 60 minutes for 10 primary index subtests
 - New later start points for those suspected of giftedness

Improved user experience

- Simpler administration and scoring directions
- Available on both Q-interactive and Q-global
- Digital usability improvements, including a new Q-interactive app



Digital options

Benefits of Q-interactive include:

- Easily administer and score the assessment using two iPad® devices, no manuals or stimulus books required!
- Automated scoring: saves time and reduces errors, including automated verbatim response scoring
- A fully digital version of Spatial Addition is included (no grid or counters required)
- Digital manuals are available
- Paper response booklets required for Coding and Symbol Search are available on the website

Benefits of Q-global include:

- Administer on paper and enter raw scores to quickly receive a detailed and accurate score report
- Digital manuals and stimulus books are available for ease of access, telepractice administration, and a compact, convenient administration solution
- Options are available for pay per use or annual subscriptions

Structure of WAIS-5^{UK}

Five clinically, theoretically, and psychometrically driven factors

1



Verbal
Comprehension

2



Visual
Spatial

3



Fluid
Reasoning

4



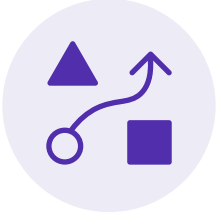
Working
Memory

5



Processing
Speed

Test Framework

FULL SCALE				
				
Verbal Comprehension Similarities Vocabulary Information Comprehension	Visual Spatial Block Design Visual Puzzles	Fluid Reasoning Matrix Reasoning Figure Weights Arithmetic Set Relations	Working Memory Digit Sequencing Running Digits Digits Forwards Digits Backwards Letter-Number Sequencing Symbol Span Spatial Addition	Processing Speed Coding Symbol Search Naming Speed Quantity
PRIMARY INDEX SCALES				
Verbal Comprehension Similarities Vocabulary	Visual Spatial Block Design Visual Puzzles	Fluid Reasoning Matrix Reasoning Figure Weights	Working Memory Digit Sequencing Running Digits	Processing Speed Coding Symbol Search
ANCILLARY INDEX SCALES				
Expanded Index Scores Verbal Expanded Crystallised Index (VECI) Expanded Visual Spatial Index (EVSII) Expanded Fluid Index (EFI) Expanded Working Memory Index (EWMI) Expanded Processing Speed Index (EPSI)		Domain-Specific Index Scores Verbal Reasoning Index (VRI) Quantitative Reasoning Index (QRI) Visual Working Memory Index (VWMI) Auditory Working Memory Index-Registration (AWMI-R) Auditory Working Memory Index-Manipulation (AWMI-M) Motor-Reduced Processing Speed Index (MRPSI)		Summary Index Scores Non-Verbal Index (NVI) Non-Motor Index (NMI) General Ability Index (GAI) Cognitive Proficiency Index (CPI)

Subtests in purple are the primary subtests used to derive the FSIQ; subtests in italics are allowable substitutions for deriving the FSIQ; and subtests that are greyed out are secondary subtests that cannot be used to substitute for any subtest for deriving the FSIQ.

For more information about WAIS-5^{UK}, visit

[Pearsonclinical.co.uk](https://pearsonclinical.co.uk)