Pearson

WAIS–IV vs. WAIS–5:
What's new and improved

Made to measure more

The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale®, Fifth Edition (WAIS®-5), a comprehensive and reliable assessment of cognitive abilities in adolescents and adults, now features reduced administration time, updated norms, improved clinical utility, and improved user experience.

- Relevant to today's population with new norms
- Reduced administration time for FSIQ and primary subtests
- Simplified administration and scoring directions
- Flexible with improved clinical utility and numerous ancillary index scores
- New expanded index scores for increased interpretive clarity
- New index scores for examinees with expressive language or motor difficulties
- Expanded construct coverage for working memory, fluid reasoning, and processing speed
- New later start points for those suspected of giftedness

The new WAIS-5 subtests

Set Relations: New Fluid Reasoning subtest that measures deductive reasoning and logical thinking.

Running Digits: New Working Memory subtest that measures auditory working memory that requires both flexibility in information processing and a progressive shift of attention.

Naming Speed Quantity: New Processing Speed subtest that measures numerical processing fluency and the ability to recognize and label quantities efficiently.

Spatial Addition: A measure of Visual Working Memory that measures visual-spatial working memory and requires storage, manipulation, and ability to ignore competing stimuli (also included on WMS®-IV and WMS-5).

Symbol Span: A measure of Visual Working Memory that measures the capacity to hold a mental image of a design in mind and the relative spatial position on the page (also included on WMS-IV and WMS-5).

WAIS®–IV (2008)	WAIS–5 (2024)
Administration Time	
70 minutes for core subtests ~90 minutes for all subtests	45 minutes for the 7–subtest FSIQ ~60 minutes for the 10 primary index subtests
Norms and Validity Studies	
2007–2008	2023–2024
Co-normed with WMS–IV	Co-normed with WMS®–5
Studies with other measures WAIS®–III • WISC®–IV • CMS™ • WIAT®–II • WMS®–III • Brown ADD Scales® • D-KEFS™ • CVLT®–II • RBANS®	**Studies with other measures** WAIS®–IV • WISC®–V • DAS–II™ • NU SA • KBIT™–2 Revised • WIAT® 4 • WRAML™3 • PPVT™–5/EVT™–3
Special group studies • Intellectually gifted (GT) • Intellectual disability–mild severity (IDMI) • Intellectual disability–moderate severity (IDMO) • Borderline intellectual functioning (BIF) • Reading disorder (RD) • Mathematics disorder (MD) • Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) • Autistic disorder (AUT) • Asperger's disorder (ASP) • Major depressive disorder (DEP) • Traumatic brain injury (TBI) • Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) • Probable dementia of the Alzheimer's type (ALZ)	**Special group studies** • Intellectually gifted (GT) • Intellectual disability–mild severity (IDMI) • Intellectual disability–moderate severity (IDMO) • Specific learning disorder-reading (SLD-R) • Specific learning disorder-mathematics (SLD-M) • Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) • Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) • Traumatic brain injury (TBI) • Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) • Probable dementia of the Alzheimer's type (ALZ) • Personal protective equipment (PPE) • Native American (NA) • English language learners (ELL)
Subtests	
Core Subtests Similarities • Vocabulary • Information • Block Design • Matrix Reasoning • Visual Puzzles • Digit Span • Arithmetic • Symbol Search • Coding **Supplemental Subtests** Comprehension • Figure Weights • Picture Completion • Letter-Number Sequencing • Cancellation	**Primary Subtests** Similarities • Vocabulary • Block Design • Visual Puzzles • Matrix Reasoning • Figure Weights • Digit Sequencing • Running Digits New • Coding • Symbol Search **Secondary Subtests** Information • Comprehension • Arithmetic • Set Relations New • Digits Forward • Digits Backward • Letter-Number Sequencing • Naming Speed Quantity New • Symbol Span New • Spatial Addition New
FSIQ	
10 Subtests	7 Subtests
Index scores	
4 Index scores • 1 optional index score	5 Primary Index scores • 15 Ancillary Index scores New
Remote Administration	
Basic retrofit offering	Digital assets for remote administration
Accessibility	
General Ability Index for those with working memory or processing speed difficulties	General Ability Index for those with working memory or processing speed difficulties Nonverbal Index for expressive issues New Nonmotor Index New Motor-Reduced Processing Speed Index for motor issues New

Learn more at
PearsonAssessments.com/WAIS5

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