

WMS-IV to WMS-5

What is new—and what is better
—in adult memory assessment?

Measure core aspects of memory with updated content,
flexible forms, and expanded clinical utility.

WMS-5 helps clinicians:

-  **Use more current reference data**
Updated test content and norms representative of today's population support interpretation with a refreshed normative foundation.
-  **Understand performance patterns**
Additional ancillary index scores, contrast scores, and process scores can expand interpretation beyond a single summary score.
-  **Tailor assessment depth**
Select comprehensive, brief, alternate, or screen-first pathways, depending on the clinical question and available time.
-  **Connect memory and ability**
WAIS®-5 and **WMS®-5** ability-memory comparisons can provide a deeper view of cognitive strengths and weaknesses.
-  **Differentiate learning and retention**
New index scores reflect both single-trial and multiple-trial learning for a more differentiated view of memory acquisition.
-  **Fit preferred workflows**
Print, Q-global®, and Q-interactive® options help align administration and scoring with the clinician's workflow.

Choose the WMS-5 pathway that fits the clinical question



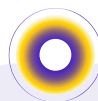
Standard Form

Comprehensive view of short- and long-term memory and visual working memory.



Short Form

Briefer battery sampling, immediate and delayed recall and visual working memory.



Alternate Form

Alternate versions of auditory and visual subtests for Short Form use.



Screener

Screen memory weaknesses before deciding whether to continue.

WMS-5 can support comprehensive evaluation, briefer assessment, re-evaluation, or screen-first workflows without making every case follow the same path.

WMS-IV vs. WMS-5: A side-by-side comparison

Area	WMS-IV	WMS-5
 Foundation	Established WMS-IV adult memory assessment	Latest revision with updated test content and norms representative of today's population
 Norming link	Co-normed with WAIS-IV	Co-developed and co-normed with WAIS-5
 Assessment depth	Standard administration, Standard Form plus Short Form, Alternate Form, and Immediate Memory Screener	Standard Form plus Short Form, Alternate Form, and Immediate Memory Screener
 Learning analysis	Memory acquisition and retention represented within WMS-IV scoring	New index scores reflecting single-trial and multiple-trial learning
 Clinical utility	Core memory scores and selected supplemental information	Additional ancillary index scores, contrast scores, and process scores
 Ability-memory view	Ability-memory interpretation tied to WAIS-IV	Index discrepancy analyses for WAIS-5 and WMS-5 ability-memory comparison
 Workflow	Paper, Q-global, and Q-interactive options	Print, Q-global, and Q-interactive options to align with preferred workflow

The added score information with WMS-5 can help clarify

Memory acquisition

Single-trial and multiple-trial learning indexes provide additional information about how learning unfolds across exposure.

Retrieval profile

Process and contrast information can support a more detailed look at performance patterns across memory tasks.

Ability-memory context

Discrepancy analyses compare WAIS-5 and WMS-5 performance to support ability-memory interpretation.

Greater flexibility, insight, and choice

More flexible entry points

Not every evaluation requires the same route: clinicians can choose a comprehensive, brief, alternate, or screen-first pathway.

More workflow options

Print, Q-global, and Q-interactive options help align WMS-5 with preferred administration and scoring workflows.

More interpretive detail

Expanded scores are intended to support deeper interpretation of performance across clinical, forensic, rehabilitation, and educational settings.

More current WMS foundation

WMS-5 preserves the adult memory assessment purpose while updating content, norms, forms, and score information for current practice.

WMS-5 keeps the WMS-IV foundation recognizable while adding current norms, flexible pathways, expanded score information, and stronger WAIS-5-linked interpretation.

Learn more: [pearsonassessments.com](https://www.pearsonassessments.com)

1-800-627-7271

© 2026 Pearson Education, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Pearson, Q-interactive, Q-global, WAIS, and WMS are trademarks, in the US and/or other countries, of Pearson plc.