

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/236

Subject: Autism Assessment Waiting Times

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE																						
1. The average (mean) and median waiting time, in weeks, from initial referral to a first autism diagnostic assessment appointment, for the most recent 12 months for which data is available. Please provide this separately for: a. Children and young people (under 18) b. Adults (18+)	Children and young people (under 18) The ICB holds some data for Sirona care and health CiC, who provide Autism assessments and treatments for children and young people through the Children’s Community Health Partnership contract, which is received through monthly performance reporting. The ICB does not receive the average and median waiting times but does receive a breakdown of referral to first assessment by wait band as outlined below. For further information please contact the provider directly; Sirona care and health (hello.sirona@nhs.net). Average wait times for children’s autism assessments can be found here: Waiting times - Sirona care & health. <table><tr><th rowspan="2">Year/Month</th><th colspan="6">Number of children waiting and duration of wait</th><th rowspan="2">Total</th></tr><tr><th>Under 18 weeks</th><th>19-25 weeks</th><th>26-51 weeks</th><th>52-77 weeks</th><th>78-103 weeks</th><th>Over 104 weeks</th></tr><tr><td>July 2026</td><td>Info not available</td><td>Info not available</td><td>426</td><td>533</td><td>Info not available</td><td>1934</td><td>3715</td></tr></table>	Year/Month	Number of children waiting and duration of wait						Total	Under 18 weeks	19-25 weeks	26-51 weeks	52-77 weeks	78-103 weeks	Over 104 weeks	July 2026	Info not available	Info not available	426	533	Info not available	1934	3715
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July 2026	Info not available	Info not available	426	533	Info not available	1934	3715																

June 2026	428	Info not available	500	513	Info not available	1879	3805
May 2026	439	131	535	524	424	1913	3966
April 2026	449	159	562	546	441	1935	4092
March 2026	506	147	561	570	438	1917	4141
February 2026	467	130	641	551	483	1866	4138
January 2026	431	91	716	495	565	1834	4132
December 2025	408	169	702	565	552	1800	4196
November 2025	425	218	690	610	524	1756	4213
October 2025	464	200	692	649	527	1728	4260
September 2025	486	174	726	643	579	1732	4342
August 2025	513	199	701	691	591	1741	4436
July 2025	710	229	610	788	522	1740	4599

The ICB, under the Provider Selection Regime direct award B, awarded an NHS standard contract for the provision of ASD assessments and ADHD assessment and care pathway for Children and Young People and Adults to Clinical partners.

Clinical Partners: the ICB does not hold this information please contact Clinical Partners directly, as follows: [Contact us | Clinical Partners](#)

Adults (18+)

The ICB does not hold this information as it is collected via our commissioned providers, which are Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust (AWP) and Clinical Partners for Adults. Please contact AWP

	(awp.freedomofinformation@nhs.net) and Clinical Partners (Contact us Clinical Partners) directly. This is the same position for private providers offering NHS services via a Right to Choose pathway for children and adults ADHD and autism services. This information is not collected as part of national mandatory reporting via Mental Health Services Data for providers, which ICBs can access and view.
2. The average (mean) and median waiting time, in weeks, from first assessment appointment to a diagnostic outcome being given, for the same period and age groups.	Children and young people (under 18) The ICB do not hold this information. Please contact Sirona and Clinical Partners directly. Adults (18+) The ICB does not hold this information as it is collected via our commissioned providers, which are Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust (AWP) and Clinical Partners for Adults. Please contact AWP and Clinical Partners directly. This is the same position for private providers offering NHS services via Right to Choose pathway for children and adults ADHD and autism services. This information is not collected as part of national mandatory reporting via Mental Health Services Data for providers, which ICBs can access and view.
3. The current number of open referrals awaiting a first autism assessment appointment, as of the most recent date for which this data is held, broken down by age group as above.	Children and young people (under 18) Please see question 1 and 2 response Adults (18+) Please see question 2 response
a. Whether these figures are published anywhere on an ongoing basis (e.g. a public dashboard or board report), and if so, a link to that source.	The Average wait times for CYP Autism assessment is updated on the Sirona website Waiting times - Sirona care & health. Autism waiting time statistics are published on the NHS digital website - Autism Statistics, April 2025 to March 2026 - NHS England Digital

If it would reduce the burden of responding, monthly or quarterly figures covering the same period are equally useful, and I'm happy to receive this as a spreadsheet or raw data export rather than a formatted report.

If any part of this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please contact me to discuss narrowing the scope — for instance, I would still find partial data (e.g. children only, or the most recent quarter only) useful if the full request isn't feasible within the limit.

Please let me know if any of this information is more appropriately directed to another organisation.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 10 September 2026 and has been approved for release by Helena Fuller, Director of Contracts and Procurement for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.