

17 June 2026

CAHMS Waiting Times

Under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), please provide the following data regarding Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) for the calendar years 2018 and 2025/26 (most recent available data):

1. What was the average (mean and median) number of weeks a patient under the age of 18 waited between their initial CAMHS assessment (first contact) and the commencement of their psychological therapy/treatment (second contact)?

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) confirms that it does not hold this information in recorded or reportable format. This metric is not currently captured within the recording system in place.

If this specific data is not centrally recorded, please provide the number of under-18 patients currently recorded as having had an initial assessment but who are still waiting to be assigned a therapist or begin a treatment plan.

BHSCT provides Community CAMHS for both Belfast and South Eastern Trust areas; as well as providing 2 regional CAMHS services. On 30 April 2026 the number of patients waiting to commence treatment post-assessment was:

Step 2 (BHSCT & SEHSCT)	127
Step 3 (BHSCT & SEHSCT)	382
Regional Family Trauma Centre	25
KOI Regional Gender Service	37
Drug & Alcohol CAMHS (DAMHS) (BHSCT & SEHSCT)	6
Eating Disorder CAMHS (EDYS) (BHSCT & SEHSCT)	0
Total	577