



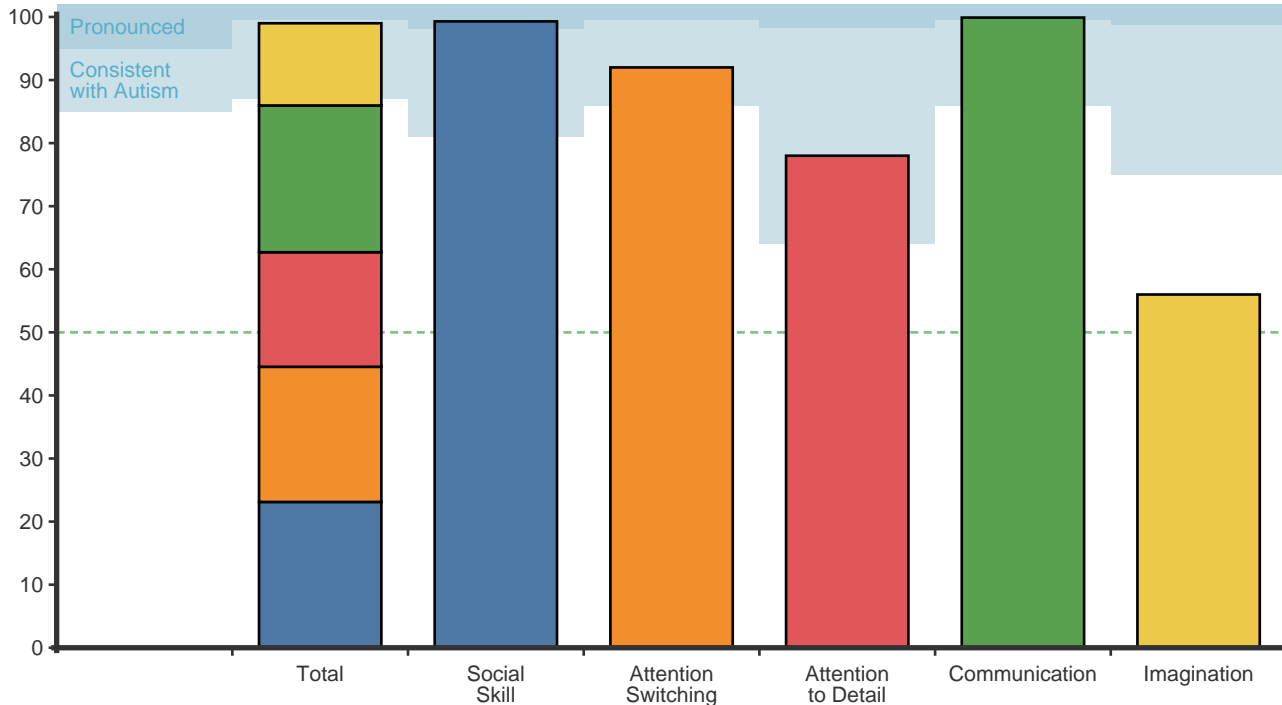
Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ)

<i>Client Name</i>	Generic Client	<i>Date administered</i>	12 Nov 2024
<i>Date of birth (age)</i>	1 Jan 1990 (34)	<i>Time taken</i>	6 min 2s
<i>Assessor</i>	Dr Simon Baker		

AQ Results

	Score	Percentile	Descriptor
Total (0-50)	35	99	Overall consistent with Autism
Social Skill (0-10)	9	99.3	Pronounced
Attention Switching (0-10)	7	92	Consistent with Autism
Attention to Detail (0-10)	7	78	Consistent with Autism
Communication (0-10)	9	99.9	Pronounced
Imagination (0-10)	3	56	-

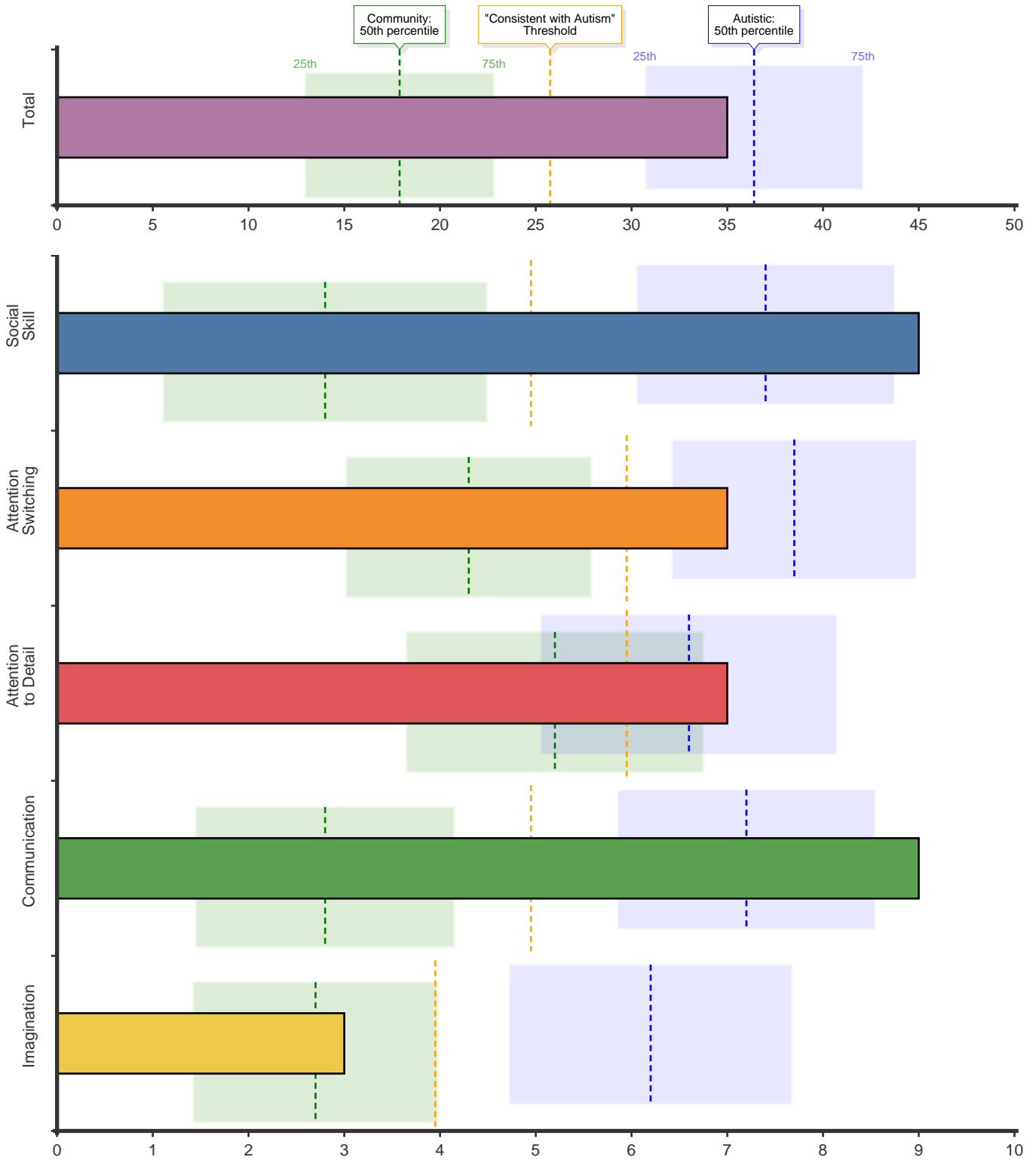
AQ Normative Percentiles (Males)





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AQ Scores Compared to Community and Autistic Distributions (Males)





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Interpretation

The respondent's Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ) score is on the 99th percentile when compared to males in the general population. When compared to Autistic males, the respondent's score is on the 43rd percentile. As such, their total AQ score falls within the top 1 percent when compared to males in the general population and is more consistent with those of Autistic males. It is important to note that scores may also reflect phenomena other than, or co-occurring with, Autism. Therefore, scores should be interpreted within the context of the individual's developmental history and other personal characteristics.

The respondent's scores on the Communication, Social Skill, Attention Switching, and Attention to Detail subscales are consistent with Autism. In particular, the respondent's scores on the Communication and Social Skill subscales are Pronounced.

The respondent's score on the **Communication** subscale is on the 99.9th percentile when compared to males in the general population and the 82nd percentile when compared to Autistic males. This indicates potential difficulties in conversational flow and understanding indirect communication cues, such as tone of voice, body language, or facial expressions. They may find interpreting these social cues challenging, which could contribute to occasional misunderstandings in social exchanges. Endorsed items within this subscale include:

- 17. *I enjoy social chit-chat (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 38. *I am good at social chit-chat (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 7. *Other people frequently tell me that what I've said is impolite, even though I think it is polite (Slightly Agree)*
- 26. *I frequently find that I don't know how to keep a conversation going (Slightly Agree)*
- 27. *I find it easy to "read between the lines" when someone is talking to me (R) (Slightly Disagree)*

The respondent's score on the **Social Skill** subscale is on the 99.3rd percentile when compared to males in the general population and the 79th percentile when compared to Autistic males. This suggests possible difficulties with social confidence and comfort in interactions, which may lead them to feel less at ease in social situations or less inclined to engage in group activities. They may find social norms unclear or challenging to navigate, impacting their preference for or enjoyment of social gatherings. Endorsed items within this subscale include:

- 11. *I find social situations easy (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 22. *I find it hard to make new friends (Definitely Agree)*
- 44. *I enjoy social occasions (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 1. *I prefer to do things with others rather than on my own (R) (Slightly Disagree)*
- 13. *I would rather go to a library than a party (Slightly Agree)*

The respondent's score on the **Attention Switching** subscale is on the 92nd percentile when compared to males in the general population and the 36th percentile when compared to Autistic males. This suggests a preference for predictability and routines, and they may experience increased stress in response to unexpected changes. They might find it challenging to shift focus quickly, impacting their ability to adjust to new activities or interruptions. Endorsed items within this subscale include:

- 25. *It does not upset me if my daily routine is disturbed (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 32. *I find it easy to do more than one thing at once (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 34. *I enjoy doing things spontaneously (R) (Definitely Disagree)*
- 43. *I like to plan any activities I participate in carefully (Definitely Agree)*



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Interpretation (cont.)

- 2. I prefer to do things the same way over and over again (Slightly Agree)

The respondent's score on the **Attention to Detail** subscale is on the 78th percentile when compared to males in the general population and the 57th percentile when compared to Autistic males. This suggests a heightened focus on details or patterns, which may lead them to prioritise specifics over the broader context. This strong attention to detail may support certain analytical tasks, though it might also limit flexibility in more fluid situations. Endorsed items within this subscale include:

- 12. *I tend to notice details that others do not (Definitely Agree)*

- 19. *I am fascinated by numbers*

(Definitely Agree)

- 23. *I notice patterns in things all the time*

(Definitely Agree)

- 28. *I usually concentrate more on the whole picture, rather than the small details (R) (Definitely Disagree)*

- 29. *I am not very good at remembering phone numbers (R) (Slightly Disagree)*

Scoring and Interpretation Information

For comprehensive information on the AQ, [see here](#).

Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ) scores are presented as a total scale score as well as scores on five subscales. Higher total scale scores are indicative of higher overall levels of autistic traits. A higher subscale score is indicative of a higher level of the specific trait that is associated with Autism.

- Social Skill (Items 1, 11, 13, 15, 22, 36, 44, 45, 47, 48) assesses difficulties and discomfort with social situations, including difficulties with social interactions and avoidance of some social situations.

- Attention Switching (Items 2, 4, 10, 16, 25, 32, 34, 37, 43, 46) describes difficulties in shifting focus between tasks or activities and adapting to changes in routine or unexpected events.

- Attention to Detail (Items 5, 6, 9, 12, 19, 23, 28, 29, 30, 49) relates to a heightened focus on specific details and patterns in the environment, which can sometimes lead to challenges in seeing and understanding the broader context.

- Communication (Items 7, 17, 18, 26, 27, 31, 33, 35, 38, 39) describes difficulties in engaging in reciprocal communication and interpreting indirect communication and social cues.

- Imagination (Items 3, 8, 14, 20, 21, 24, 40, 41, 42, 50) focuses on challenges related to imaginative thinking, including difficulties with hypothetical scenarios (e.g., pretend play).

The client's total and subscale scores are expressed as (gender-specific) percentiles based on normative data for adults in the general population (Baron-Cohen et al., 2001; Ruzich et al., 2015). The percentiles contextualise the client's scores relative to the typical scores of adults in the general population. For example, the 50th percentile represents the typical levels of autistic traits among adults in the general population, while scores on the 90th percentile fall within the top 10% when compared to adults in the general population. Scores in this higher range are more consistent with those of Autistic adults than adults in the general population. For the total



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Scoring and Interpretation Information (cont.)

AQ score, 13% of males and 4% of females score in the range that aligns with the typical scores of Autistic males and females, respectively.

A score is classified as “Consistent with Autism” if it more closely resembles the scores of Autistic adults than those of adults in the general population. To this end, the “Consistent with Autism” thresholds are calculated as the weighted midpoint between the distribution of scores among the Autistic and Nonclinical/Community samples (Jacobson & Truax, 1991).

A score is considered “Pronounced” if it is in the upper half of the Autistic distribution, reflecting higher levels of autistic traits. As such, the “Pronounced” thresholds represent scores on or above the 50th percentile when compared to Autistic adults.

For the Attention to Detail subscale, a higher “Pronounced” threshold reflecting scores on or above the 90th percentile within the Autistic sample was chosen due to significant overlap between the score distributions of the Autistic and Community samples.

Scores classified as either “Consistent with Autism” or “Pronounced” suggest that the client exhibits autistic traits at a level consistent with Autistic adults. Gender-specific distributions of scores, and their classifications, among Autistic adults and adults in the general population are presented in “Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ): Gender-Specific Norms and Thresholds” on NovoPsych’s website.

The thresholds for the total AQ score are as follows.

- Males: 26 and above is “Consistent with Autism”; 37 and above is “Pronounced”
- Females: 27 and above is “Consistent with Autism”; 39 and above is “Pronounced”
- Combined (Males and Females): 26 and above is “Consistent with Autism”; 36 and above is “Pronounced”

It is important to note that many measures of Autism, including the AQ, were developed primarily with male characteristics of Autism in mind and may therefore have less sensitivity in measuring Autism in females. Therefore, when a female respondent’s total AQ score is just below the “Consistent with Autism” threshold (e.g., 23-26), it should be interpreted with caution and considered alongside other sources of information as part of a comprehensive assessment.

Graphs comparing the total and subscale scores to the normative distribution of scores among Autistic adults and adults in the general population are presented, with shaded areas corresponding to scores between the 25th and 75th percentile. These graphs contextualise the client’s scores relative to typical levels of autistic traits among Autistic adults and adults in the general population.

Client Responses



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		Definitely Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Definitely Disagree
1	I prefer to do things with others rather than on my own	0	0	1	1
2	I prefer to do things the same way over and over again	1	1	0	0
3	If I try to imagine something, I find it very easy to create a picture in my mind	0	0	1	1
4	I frequently get so strongly absorbed in one thing that I lose sight of other things	1	1	0	0
5	I often notice small sounds when others do not	1	1	0	0
6	I usually notice car number plates or similar strings of information	1	1	0	0
7	Other people frequently tell me that what I've said is impolite, even though I think it is polite	1	1	0	0
8	When I'm reading a story, I can easily imagine what the characters might look like	0	0	1	1
9	I am fascinated by dates	1	1	0	0
10	In a social group, I can easily keep track of several different people's conversations	0	0	1	1
11	I find social situations easy	0	0	1	1
12	I tend to notice details that others do not	1	1	0	0
13	I would rather go to a library than a party	1	1	0	0
14	I find making up stories easy	0	0	1	1
15	I find myself drawn more strongly to people than to things	0	0	1	1
16	I tend to have very strong interests, which I get upset about if I can't pursue	1	1	0	0
17	I enjoy social chit-chat	0	0	1	1
18	When I talk, it isn't always easy for others to get a word in edgeways	1	1	0	0
19	I am fascinated by numbers	1	1	0	0
20	When I'm reading a story, I find it difficult to work out the characters' intentions.	1	1	0	0



Client Name | Generic Client

Client Responses (cont.)

		Definitely Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Definitely Disagree
21	I don't particularly enjoy reading fiction	1	1	0	0
22	I find it hard to make new friends	1	1	0	0
23	I notice patterns in things all the time	1	1	0	0
24	I would rather go to the theatre than a museum	0	0	1	1
25	It does not upset me if my daily routine is disturbed	0	0	1	1
26	I frequently find that I don't know how to keep a conversation going	1	1	0	0
27	I find it easy to "read between the lines" when someone is talking to me	0	0	1	1
28	I usually concentrate more on the whole picture, rather than the small details	0	0	1	1
29	I am not very good at remembering phone numbers	0	0	1	1
30	I don't usually notice small changes in a situation, or a person's appearance	0	0	1	1
31	I know how to tell if someone listening to me is getting bored	0	0	1	1
32	I find it easy to do more than one thing at once	0	0	1	1
33	When I talk on the phone, I'm not sure when it's my turn to speak	1	1	0	0
34	I enjoy doing things spontaneously	0	0	1	1
35	I am often the last to understand the point of a joke	1	1	0	0
36	I find it easy to work out what someone is thinking or feeling just by looking at their face	0	0	1	1
37	If there is an interruption, I can switch back to what I was doing very quickly	0	0	1	1
38	I am good at social chit-chat	0	0	1	1
39	People often tell me that I keep going on and on about the same thing	1	1	0	0



Client Name | Generic Client

Client Responses (cont.)

		Definitely Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Definitely Disagree
40	When I was young, I used to enjoy playing games involving pretending with other children	0	0	1	1
41	I like to collect information about categories of things (e.g. types of car, types of bird, types of train, types of plant, etc.)	1	1	0	0
42	I find it difficult to imagine what it would be like to be someone else	1	1	0	0
43	I like to plan any activities I participate in carefully	1	1	0	0
44	I enjoy social occasions	0	0	1	1
45	I find it difficult to work out people's intentions	1	1	0	0
46	New situations make me anxious	1	1	0	0
47	I enjoy meeting new people	0	0	1	1
48	I am a good diplomat	0	0	1	1
49	I am not very good at remembering people's date of birth	0	0	1	1
50	I find it very easy to play games with children that involve pretending	0	0	1	1