

"From Evidence to Action: How Closely Does Paediatric OT Practice in the UK Align with Best Practice?"

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Current best practice

(Clark & Kingsley, 2020; Jackman et al., 2022; Novak & Honan, 2019)

Clear goal-setting
with children and
families

Family centered
and family
lived
experiences

Goal-oriented,
occupation-focused
intervention
approaches

Sufficient
therapeutic practice

Use of measures
including person-
reported



Study: UK National Survey of OT Practice



Cross-sectional descriptive web-based survey using Qualtrics



Two-part survey: Questions with set responses plus 8 Vignettes to explore case-specific reasoning



Conducted in UK between Oct 2023 – March 2024



Convenience sampling via social media and direct email:
RCOT – SS
CYPF
Mind the Gap
Community of Practice.



Data analysed using descriptive statistics and content analysis



Ethical approval from University of Huddersfield

Results

Demographics

- 477 participants
- From across UK
- 95% female
- Median 10-15 years experience

Role

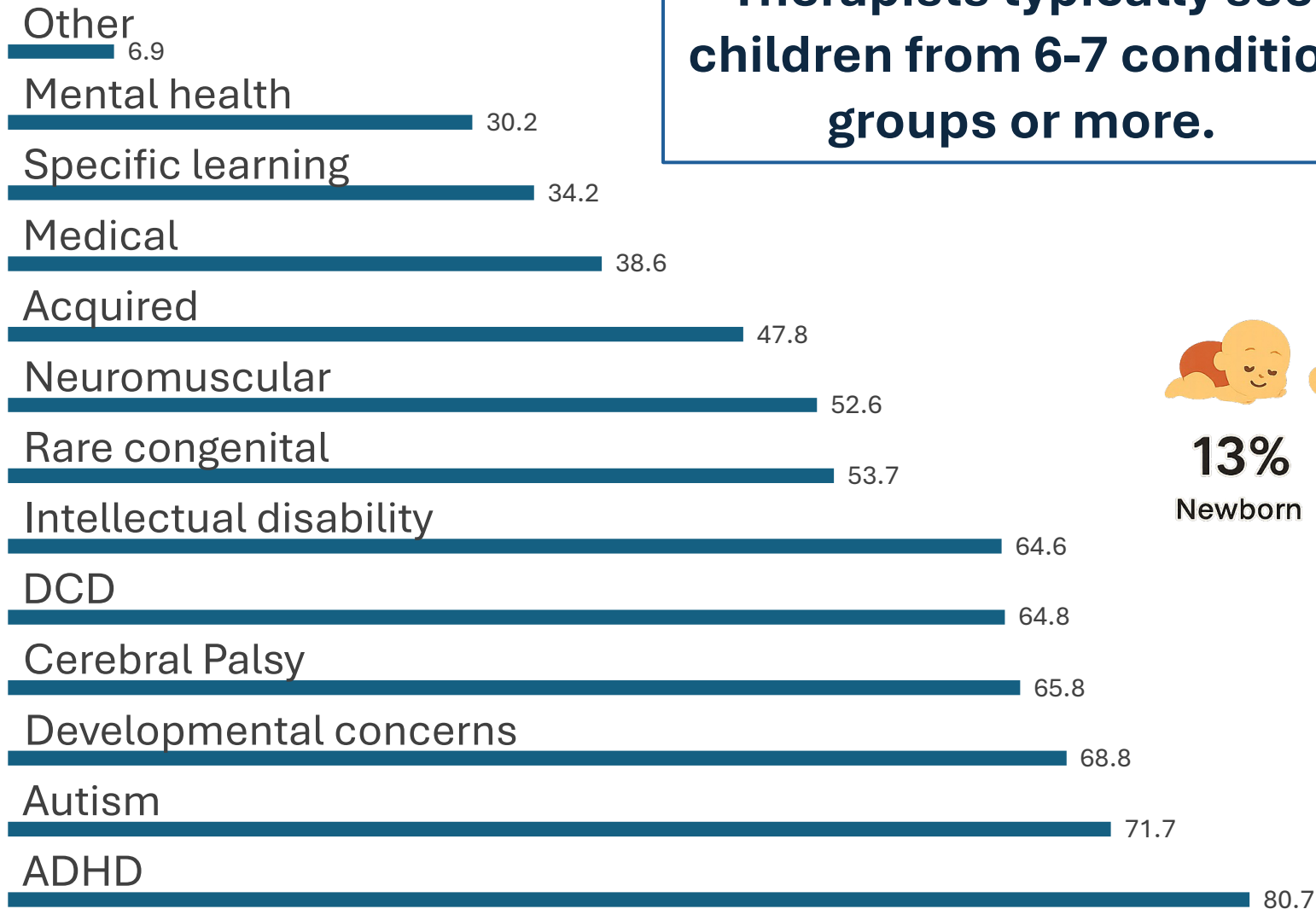
- 85% in current OT clinical/clinical leadership roles

Setting

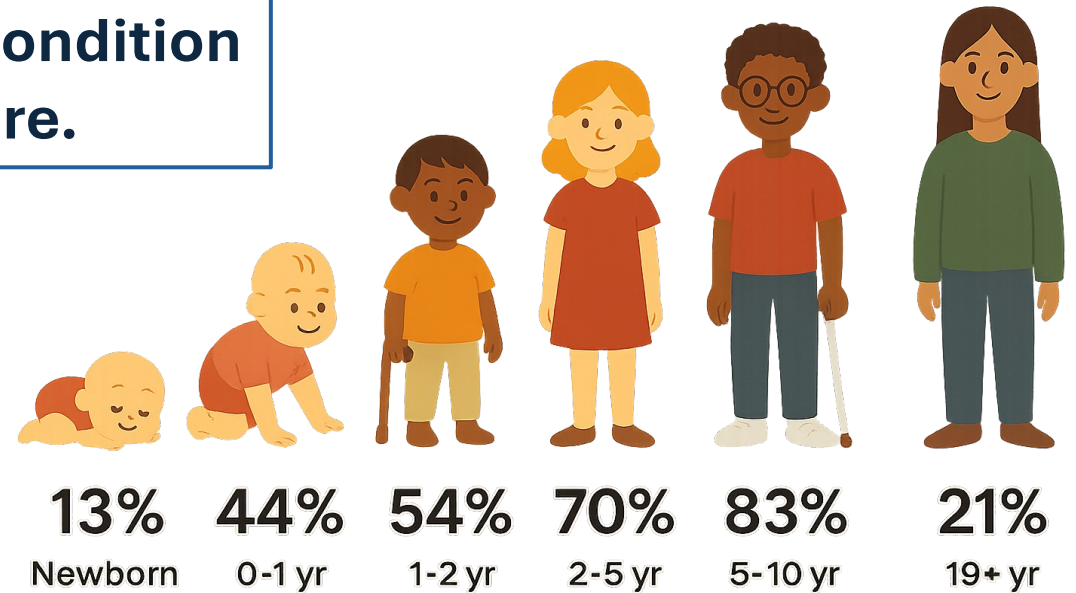
- 64% NHS,
- 15% private/third sector
- 7% school
- 6% local authority

Children and Young People: Who are we seeing?

Conditions

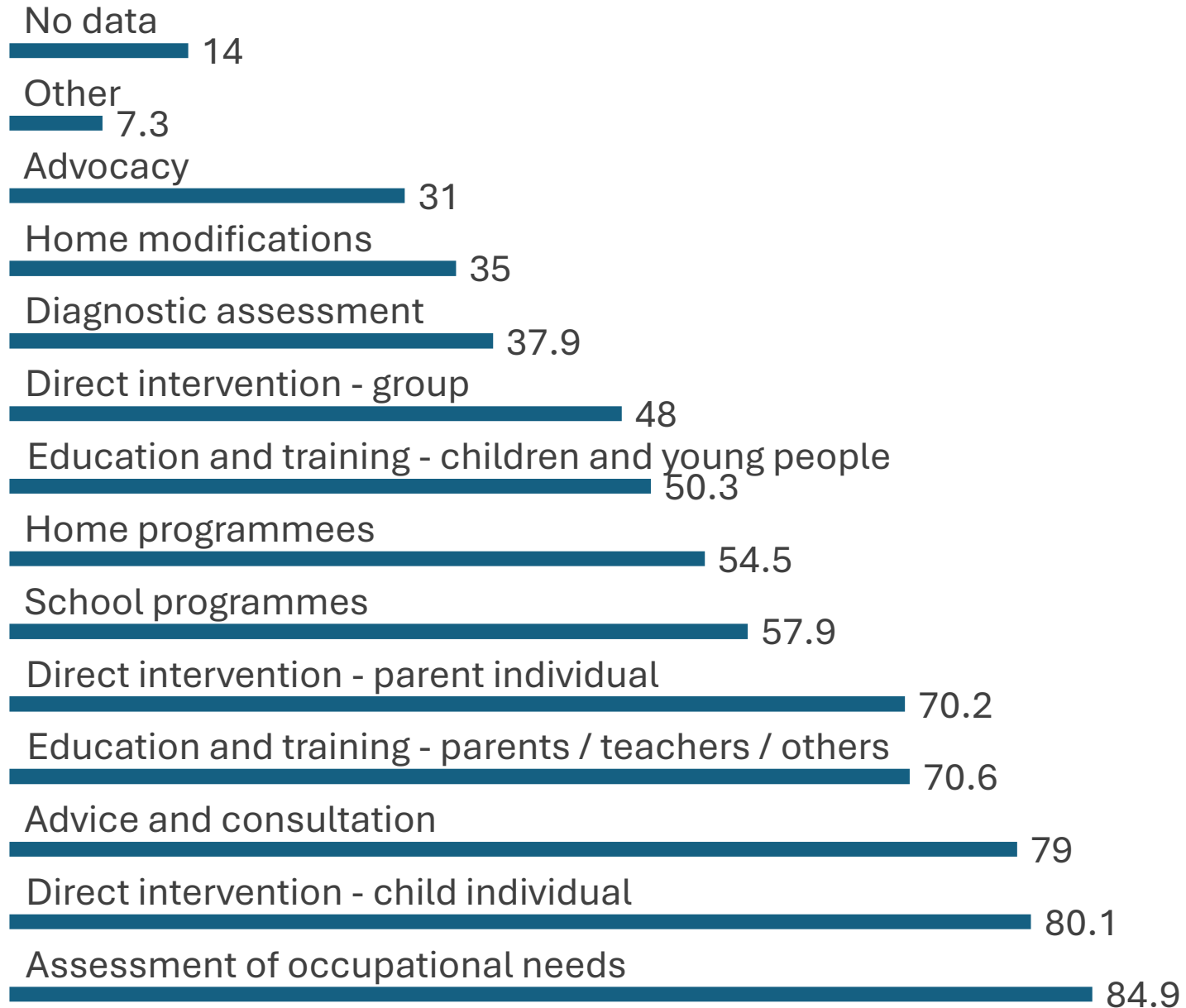


Therapists typically see children from 6-7 condition groups or more.

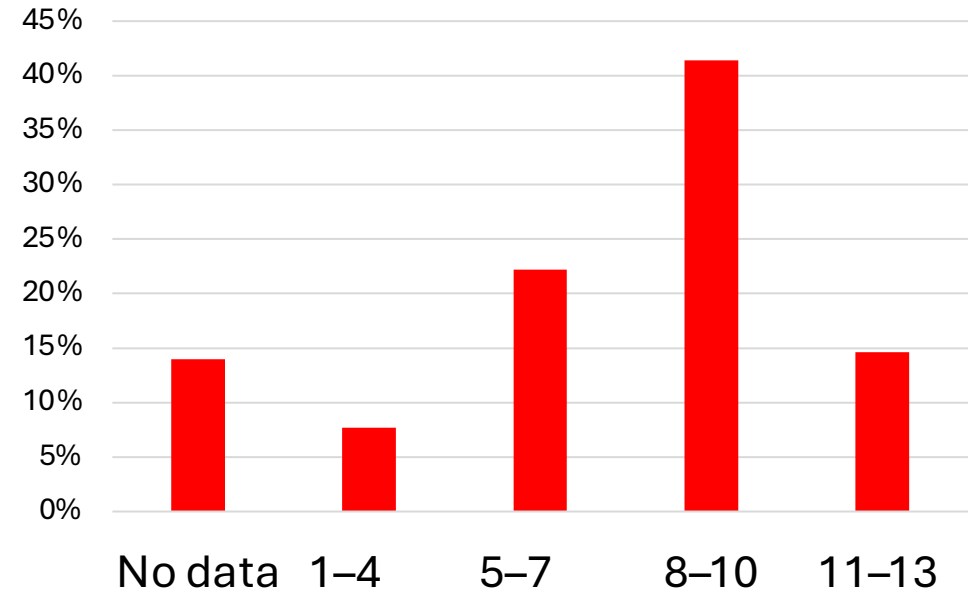


56% of therapists see 4 age bands or more

Approaches used



Number of approaches



Therapists use 8 approaches on average but varies depending on range of ages and conditions seen.

Most used assessments

Dynamic performance analysis / Task observation



Sensory Profile 2



Visual perceptual assessments (eg TVPS, Beery VMI)



Handwriting standardised assessments (eg DASH, ETCH)



Postural assessments



Local questionnaires - occupations



Standardised motor assessments (eg Movement ABC2, BOTOMP)



Environmental assessment



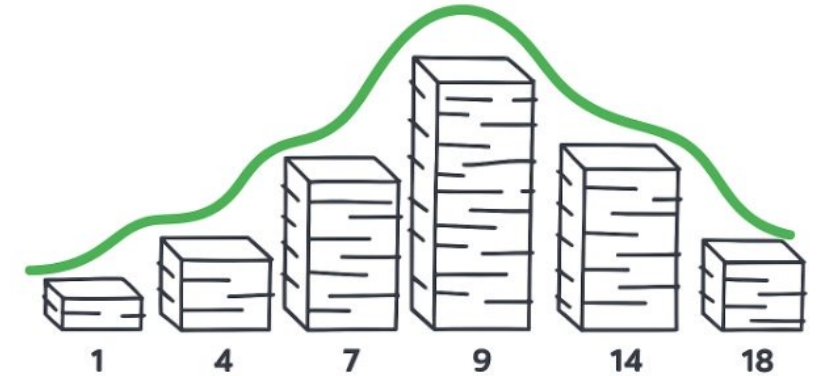
Classroom observation



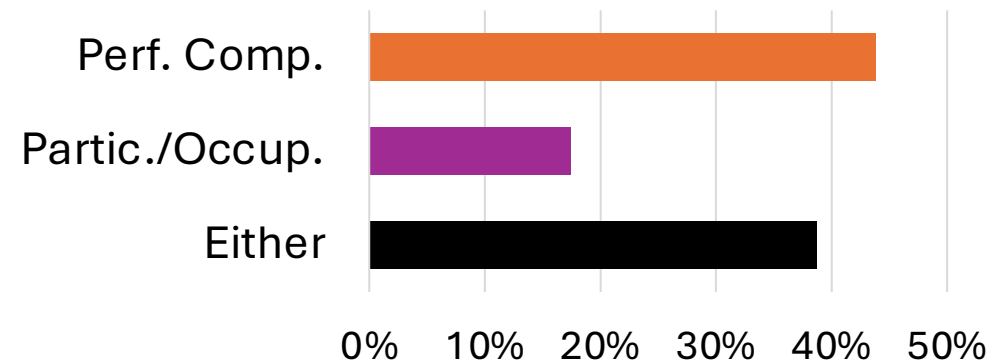
Informal interview



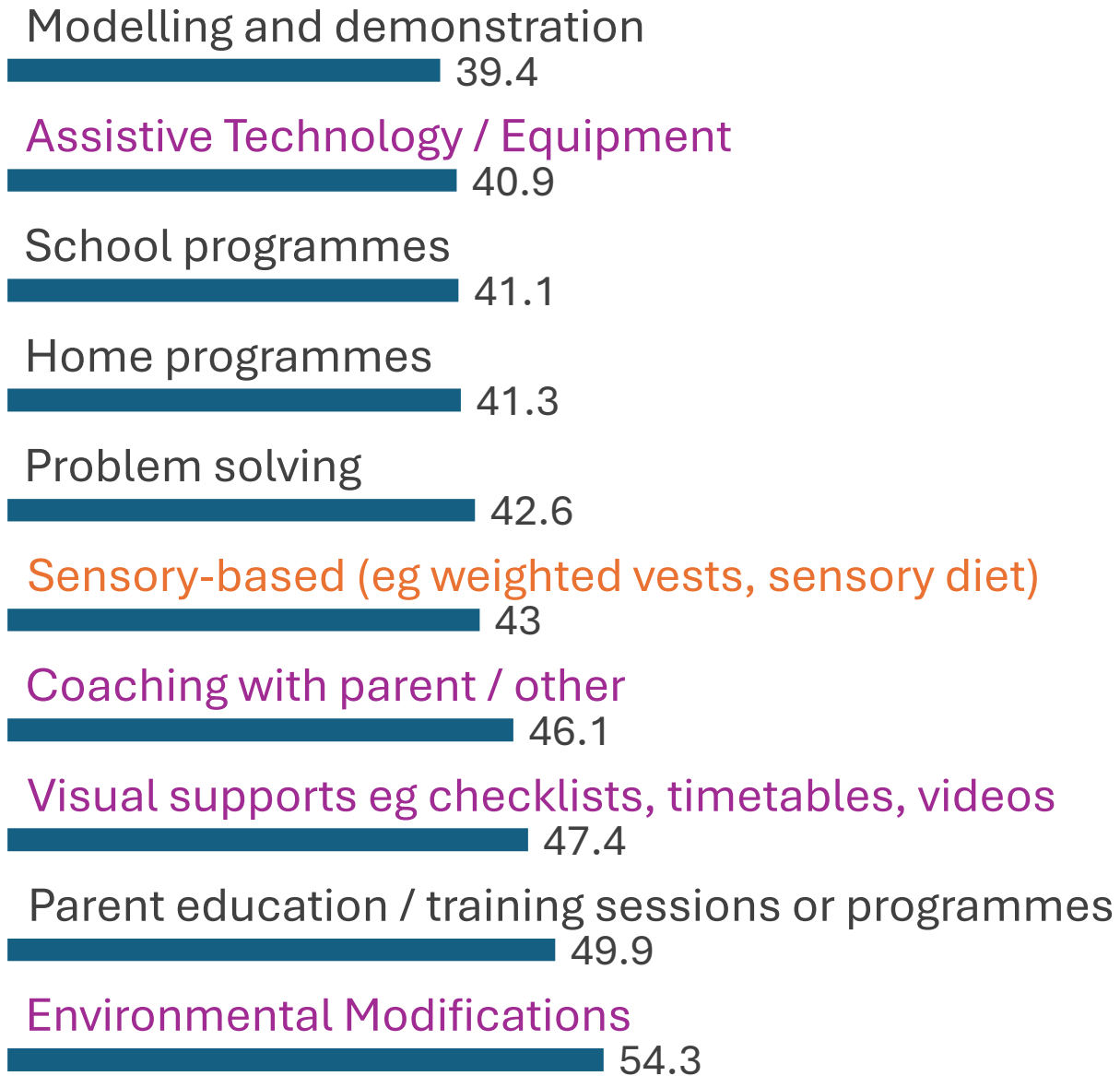
Number of assessments



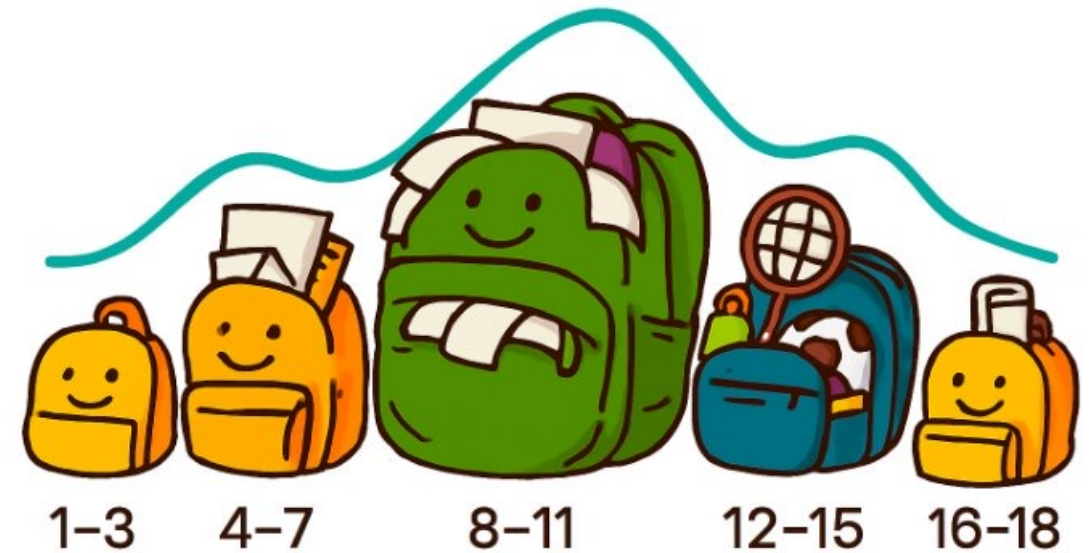
Therapists use 8 assessments on average but varies depending on range of ages and conditions seen.



Interventions used by most therapists

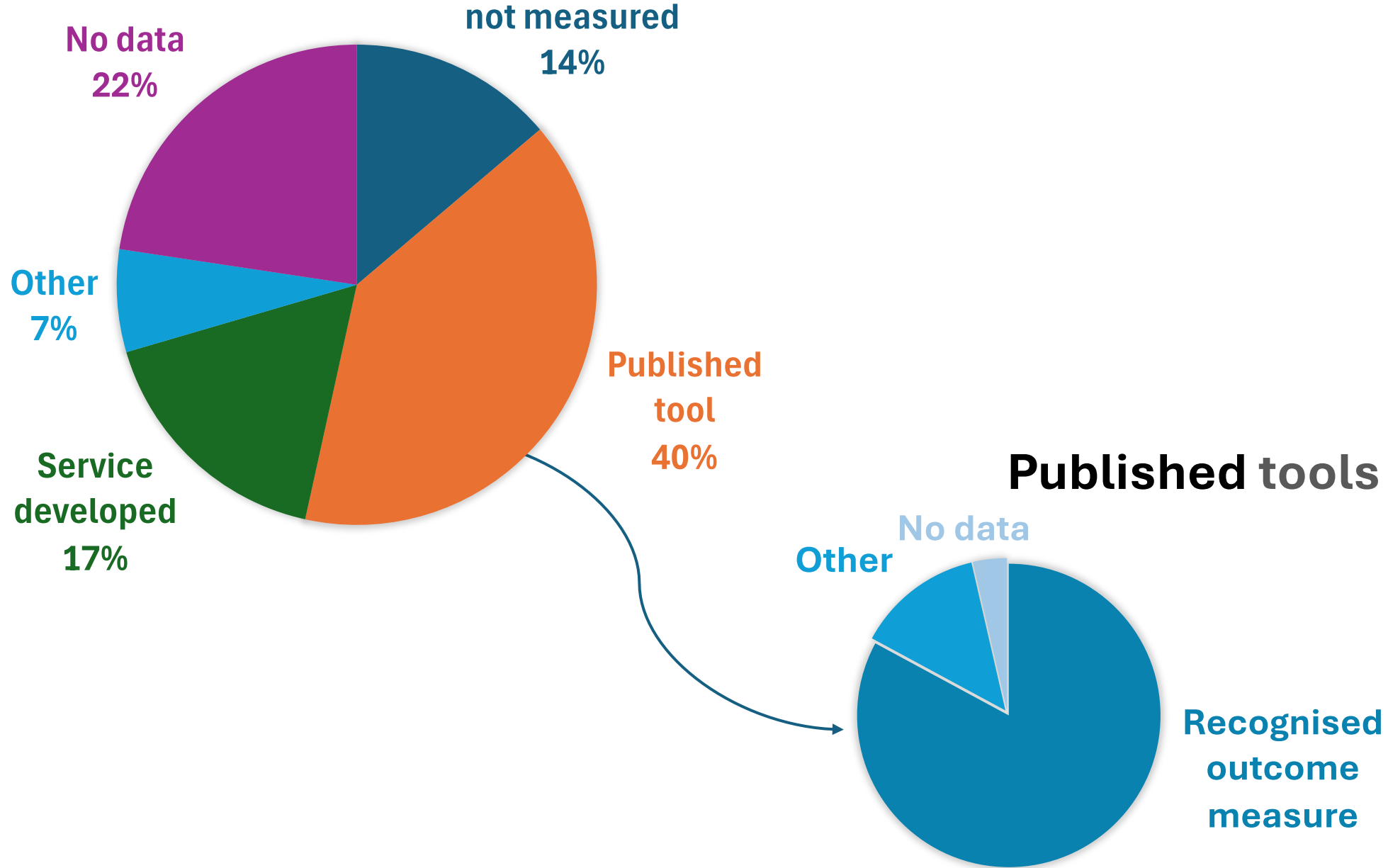


Number of interventions



Therapists use 8 interventions on average but varies depending on range of ages and conditions seen.

Outcome measurement



UK alignment with best practice?

Clear goal-setting
with children and
families

Family centred
approaches to fit
with family life and
priorities

Goal-oriented,
occupation-focused
intervention
approaches

Sufficient
therapeutic practice

Outcome measures
including person-
reported

References

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