Kent & Medway

GP appointments— September 2026

Published October 2026 NHS digital Population 2,028,606

GP Surgery Appointments	Appointments with a GP	Face-to-Face all appointments	Face-to-Face with a GP
994,909	463,092	68%	56%

That's the equivalent of nearly 50% of the population of Kent and Medway having an appointment in General Practice in September 2026

GP practices teams are working hard, why are they so busy?

- Kent & Medway has the 3rd lowest number of GPs per head of population in England: Medway and Swale has 3833 patients to each full-time GP and there are 2702 patients per full-time GP on average across Kent and Medway
- Dealing with impact of ongoing secondary care backlog of work
- GPs are managing a huge rise in patients with mental health conditions
- GPs are supporting patients whilst they wait for hospital care
- Dealing with more patients as number of patients registered is increasing by c. 2,500 per month
- The number of GP Practices in Kent & Medway has fallen by 55 since 2018

How can you help?

- Get the right treatment when you need it— Stop, think, choose www.kentandmedway.icb.nhs.uk/ your-health/local-services
- Waiting for hospital treatments—please contact hospitals directly to check waiting times www.kentandmedway.icb.nhs.uk/your-health/local-services/hospital-waiting-times
- Please be kind to our staff who are working very hard for you.
- You may not always need to see a GP: receptionists will be able to guide you to access the most ap-propriate healthcare professional
- **42,116** people did not attend their appointments in September. We would urge anyone who can no longer attend any appointment to cancel them. This allows the practice to use the time to see other patients in need.

KENT Local Medical Committee
Supporting GPs since 1912

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