Response to Reading Intervention by Students with Low IQs

Jill Allor
Tammi Champlin

CEC April, 2009

Dept. of Teaching and Learning
Institute for Reading Research
Southern Methodist University

Multi-Site Research

- Research is funded by Institute of Education Sciences (IES)
- Coordinated with other research projects
  - University of North Carolina – Charlotte
    - focus on moderate and severe cognitive disabilities
    - Diane Browder and colleagues
  - Georgia State University
    - focus on mild disabilities
    - Rose Sevcik and colleagues

Research:
Reading and Intellectual Disabilities

- Clear evidence for effectiveness of sight word instruction
- Minimal research on phonics instruction
- Throughout the literature…

Browder et al., 2006

- Meta analysis of 128 studies including students with moderate and/or severe intellectual disabilities
- Strong evidence that systematic instruction can lead to reading sight words, though most studies were small in scale.
- Only one phonics study was strong in both quality and effects

Research Questions

- Are ***reading interventions*** that have been proven to be effective with students who are very low readers also effective for teaching students with ***intellectual disabilities or IQ scores in the borderline range***?
- What ***level of reading competence*** can be achieved by these students with the use of these interventions across several years?

Research Design: 4-year Plan

	10 Elementary schools →			Move into Middle school
Condition	**Year 1 2005-2006**	**Year 2 2006-2007**	**Year 3 2007-2008**	**Year 4 2008-2009**
Reading Intervention	67 Students Grades K-3	65 Students Grades 1-4	60 Students Grades 2-5	57 Students Grades 3-6
Contrast	58 Students Grades K-3	54 Students Grades 1-4	45 Students Grades 2-5	41 Students Grades 3-6

Overview of Project Maximize:

Project Staff

Principal Investigators

Jill Allor, Ed.D.

Patricia Mathes, Ph.D.

Kyle Roberts, Ph.D.

Project Coordinators

Tammi Champlin

Francesca Jones, Ph.D.

www.smu.edu/maximize

maximize@smu.edu

Research Teachers

Karen Britton

Bea Jolly

Deirdre North

Janet Montana

Paige Gates

Rosi Criswell

Joanne Werner

Twyla Shields

Barbara Stanaland

Research Assistants

Timothea Davis

Jennifer Cheatham

Krystal Kulka

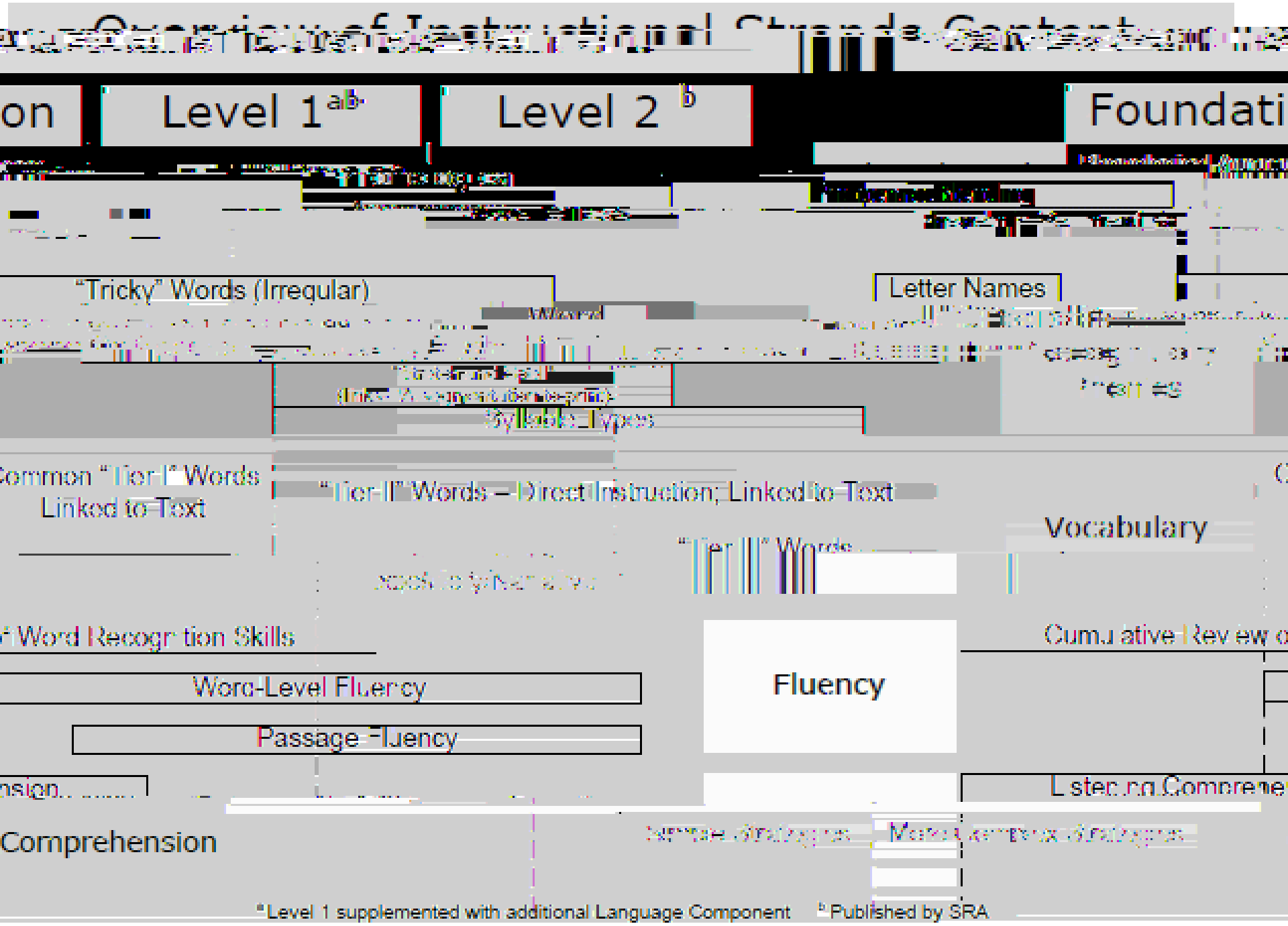
Supported by IES Grant
#H324K0400

Participants

f

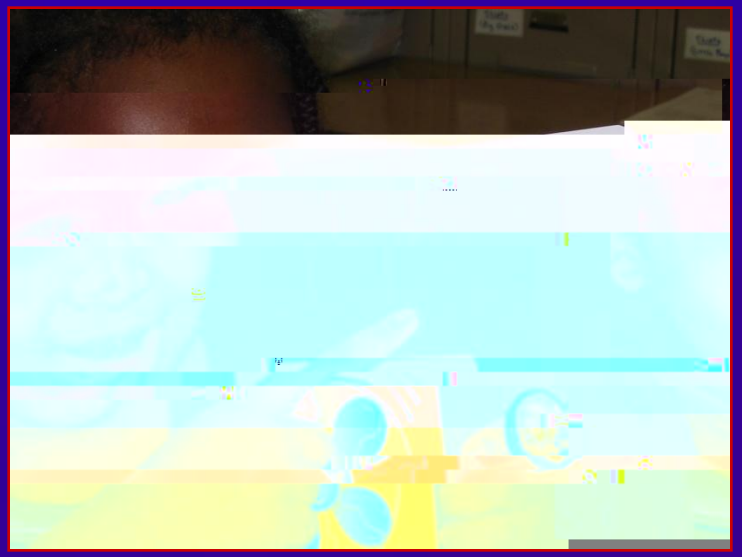
Intervention

- Comprehensive, explicit, systematic phonics-based reading program
- Implemented daily by research teachers
- Instructional Sessions
  - goal: 45- to 50-minute sessions
  - actual: 40- to 50-minute sessions
- Students taught in groups of 1-4
- Average length of time in the study approximately 2.7 years (range 2-3 years)


Level 1[a,b]
Level 2[b]
Foundati
"Tricky" Words (Irregular)
Letter Names
Common "Tier I" Words Linked to Text
"Tier II" Words – Direct Instruction; Linked to Text
Vocabulary
Word Recognition Skills
Word-Level Fluency
Passage Fluency
Fluency
Comprehension
[a] Level 1 supplemented with additional Language Component
[b] Published by SRA

*Curriculum: Critical Features

- Explicit and Systematic
  - Explicit strategies
  - Cumulative review
  - Careful sequencing
  - Scaffolding
    (gradually reduced)
- Comprehensive
- Fast-paced
- Immediate Feedback
- Teaching to Mastery
- Increased Opportunities to Respond



*_Early Interventions in Reading_, Published by SRA/McGraw-Hill

Annual Measures

- Language
  - Expressive Vocabulary Test (EVT)
  - Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT)
  - Selected subtests of Woodcock Language Proficiency Battery-R (WLPB-R)
  - Selected subtests of Test of Narrative Language (TNL)
- Phonemic Awareness
  - Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing (CTOPP)
- Reading
  - Test of Word Reading Efficiency (TOWRE)
  - Selected subtests of WLPB-R

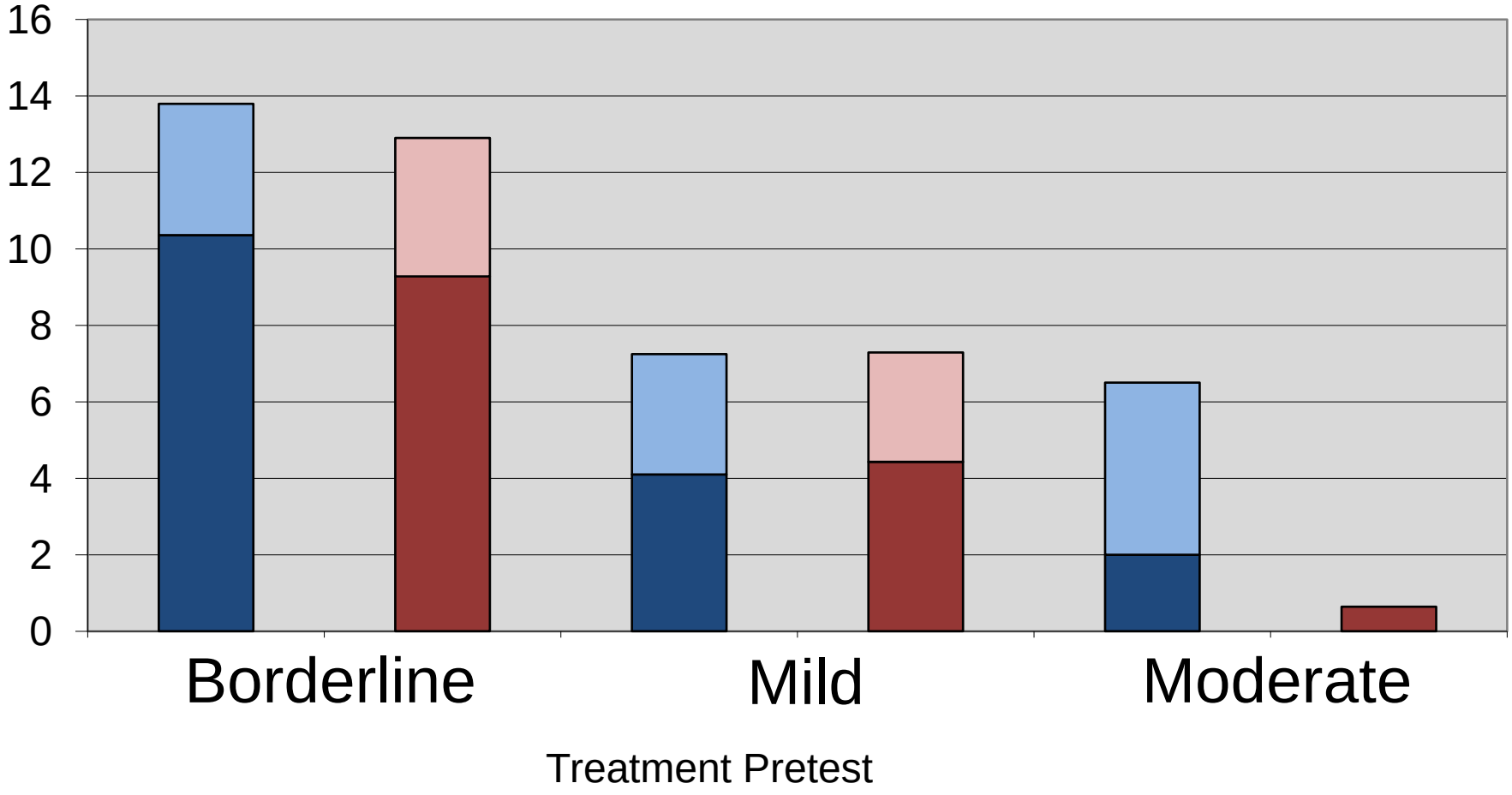
Progress Monitoring Measures

- Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS)
  - Phoneme Segmentation Fluency
  - Nonsense Word Fluency
  - Oral Reading Fluency
- Data will be analyzed using Hierarchical Linear Modeling

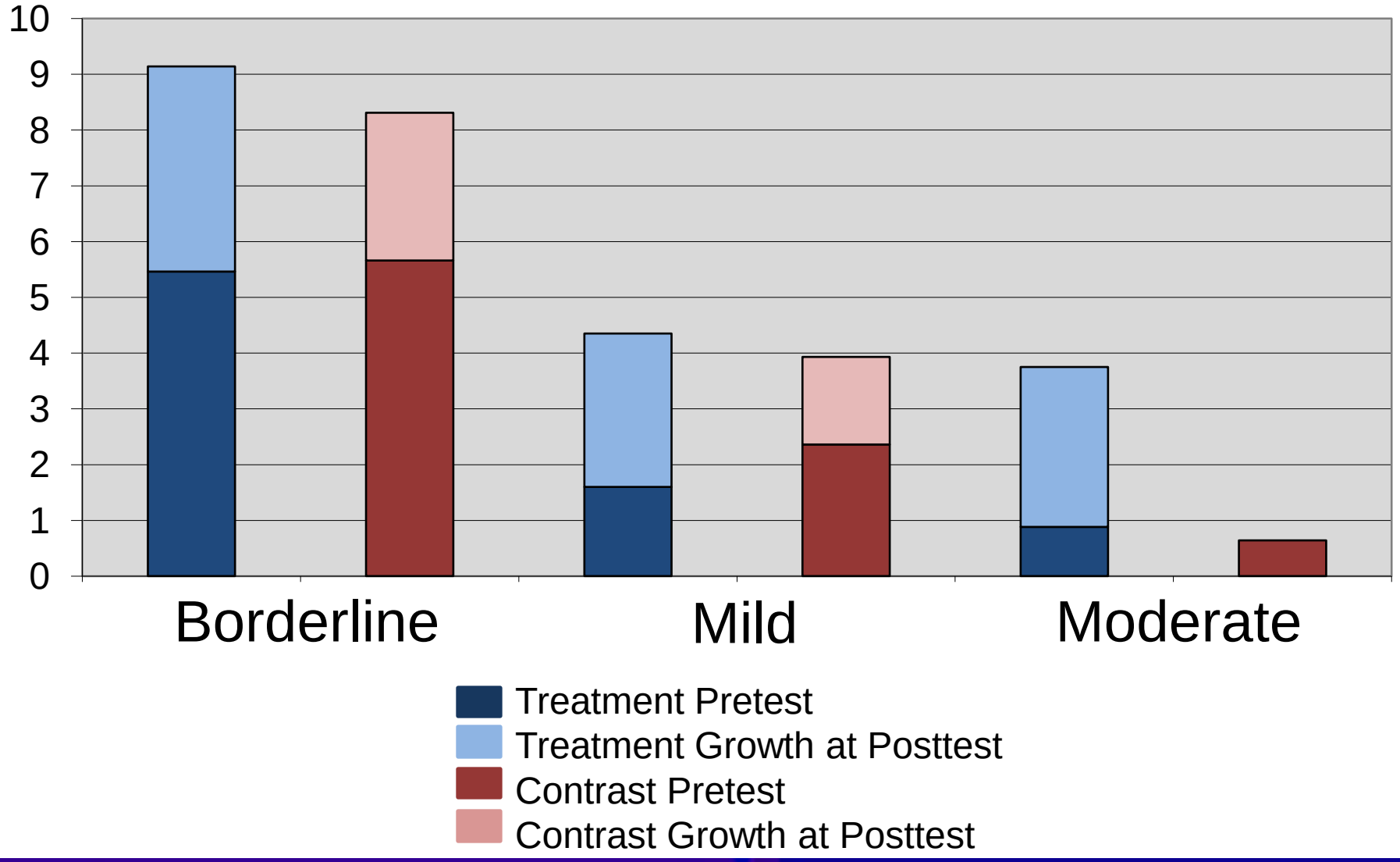
Year Three Results – Annual Measures

- See handout of tables

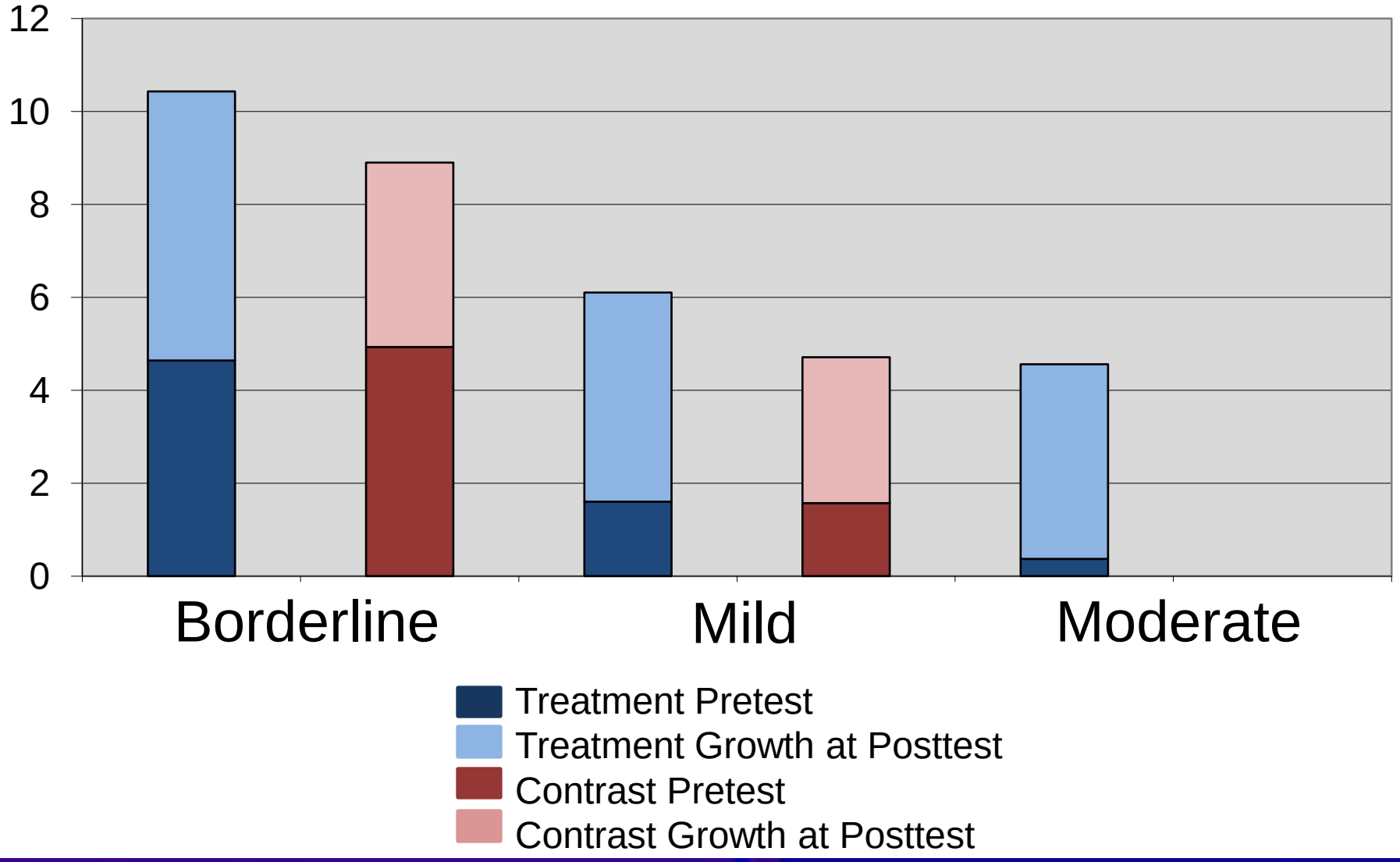
CTOPP Blending Words
Pretest and Posttest Mean Raw Scores



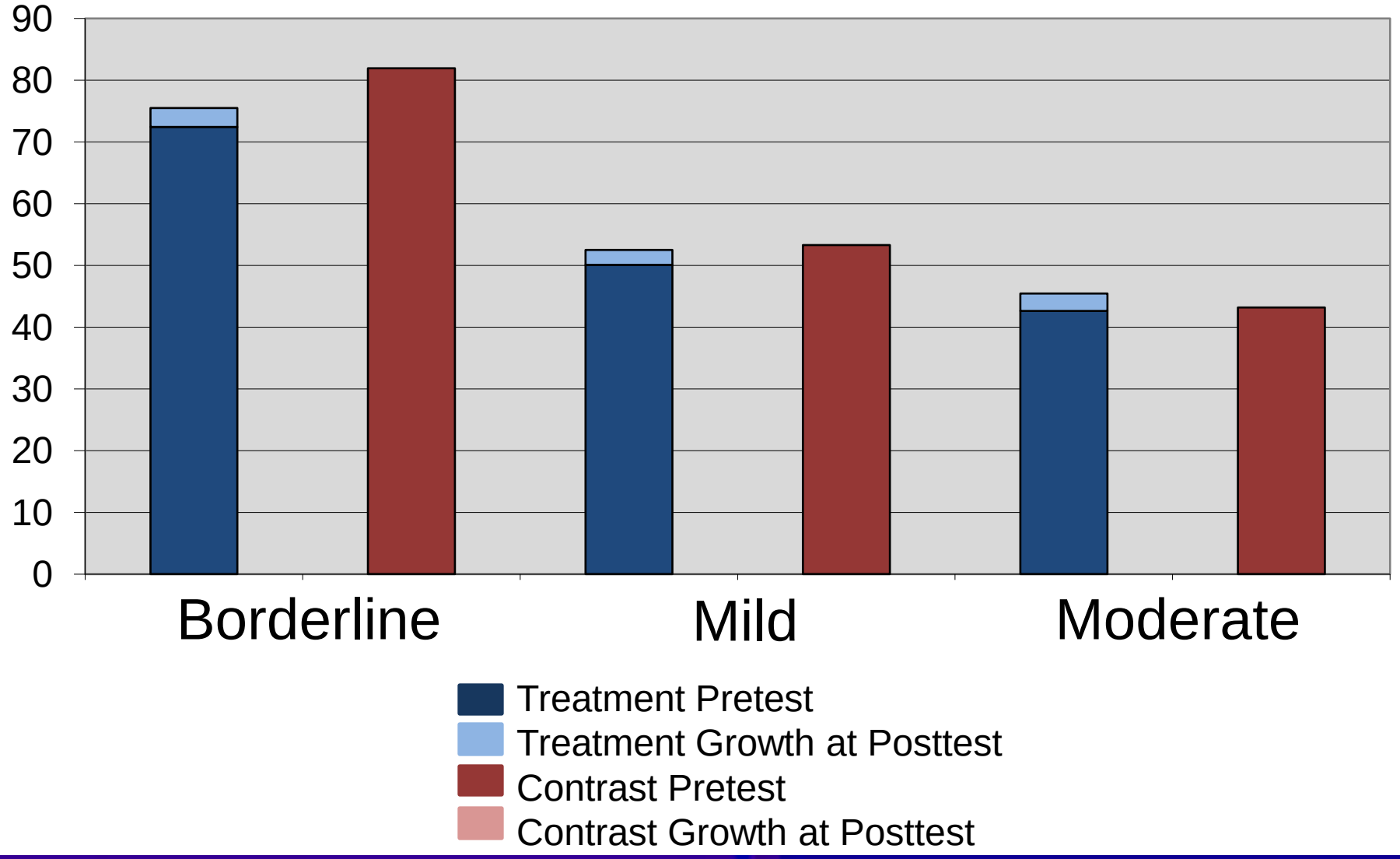
CTOPP Blending Nonwords
Pretest and Posttest Mean Raw Scores



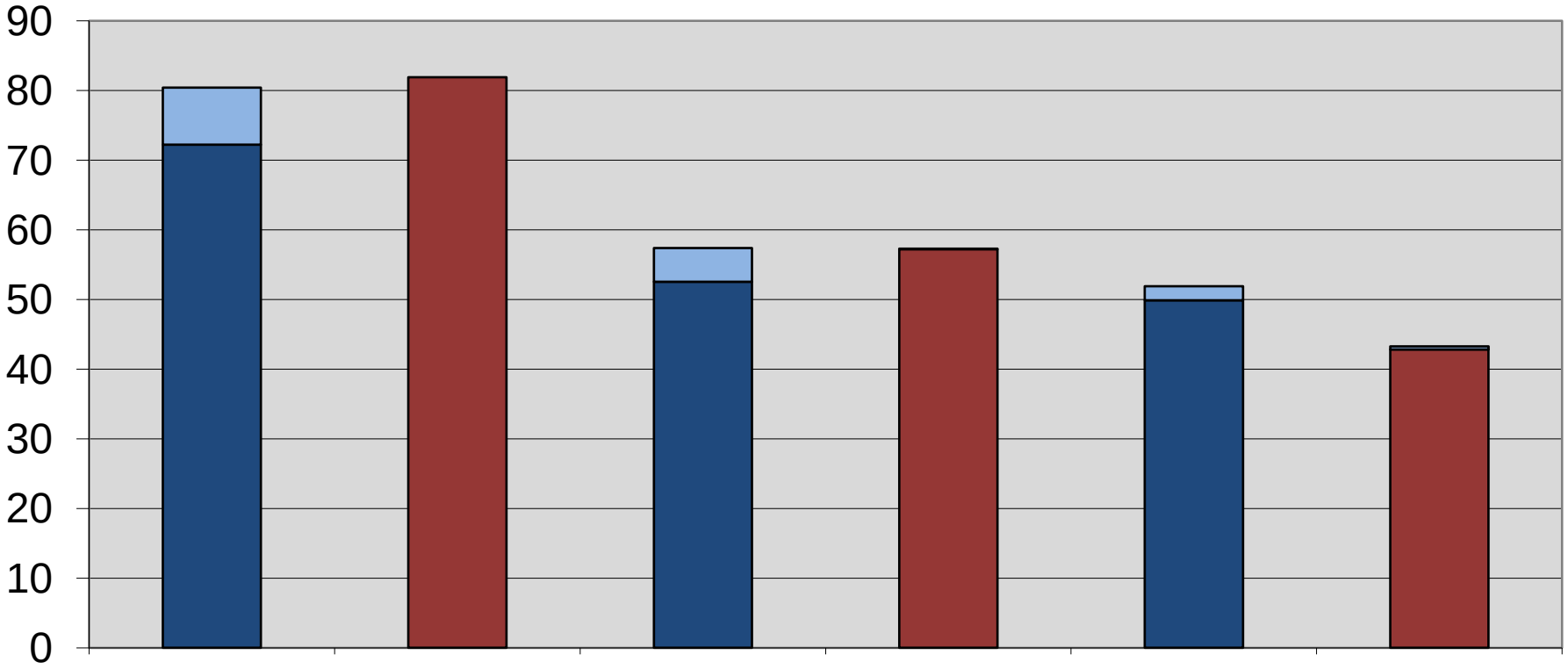
CTOPP Segmenting Words
Pretest and Posttest Mean Raw Scores



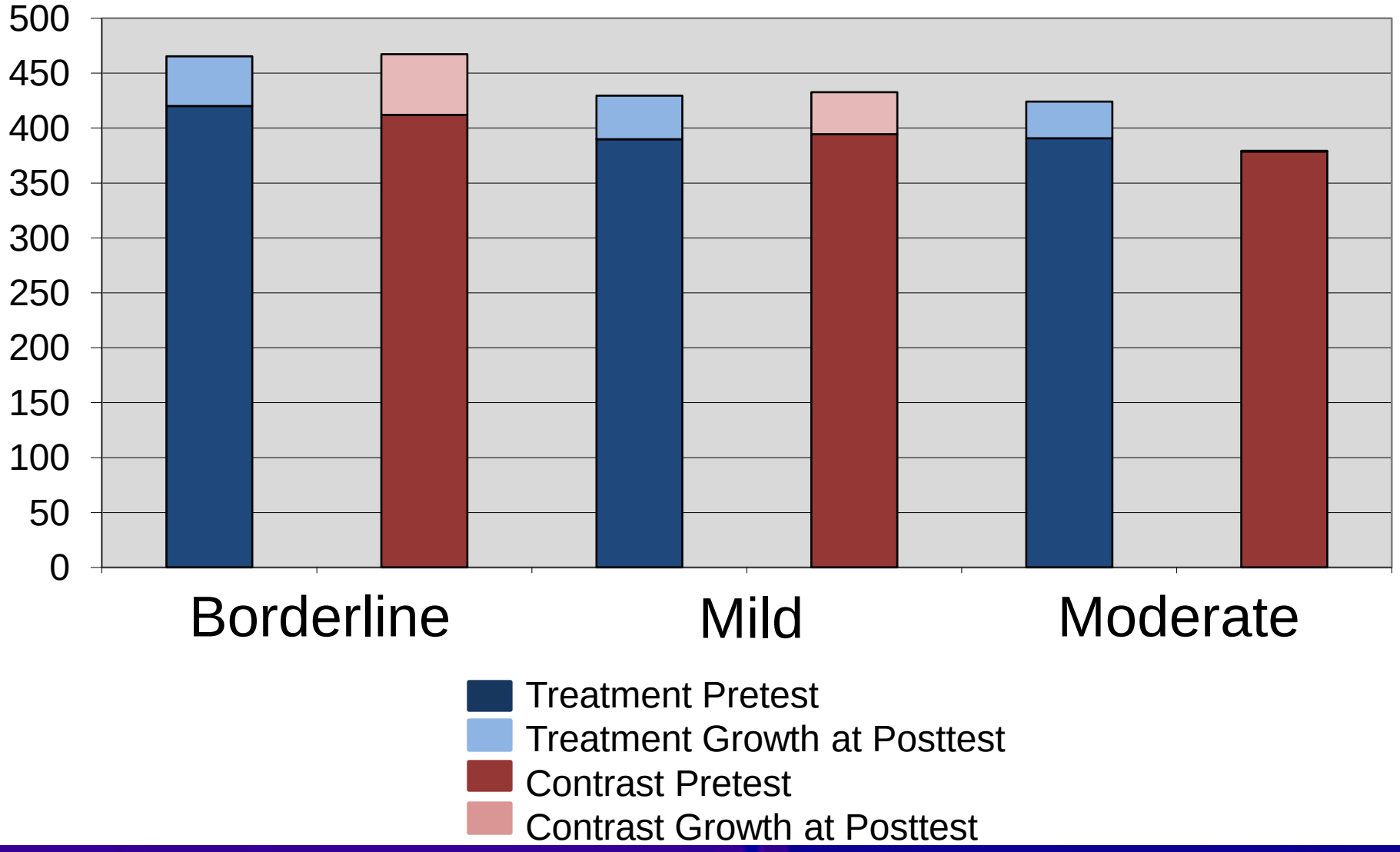
Expressive Vocabulary Test
Pretest and Posttest Mean Standard Scores



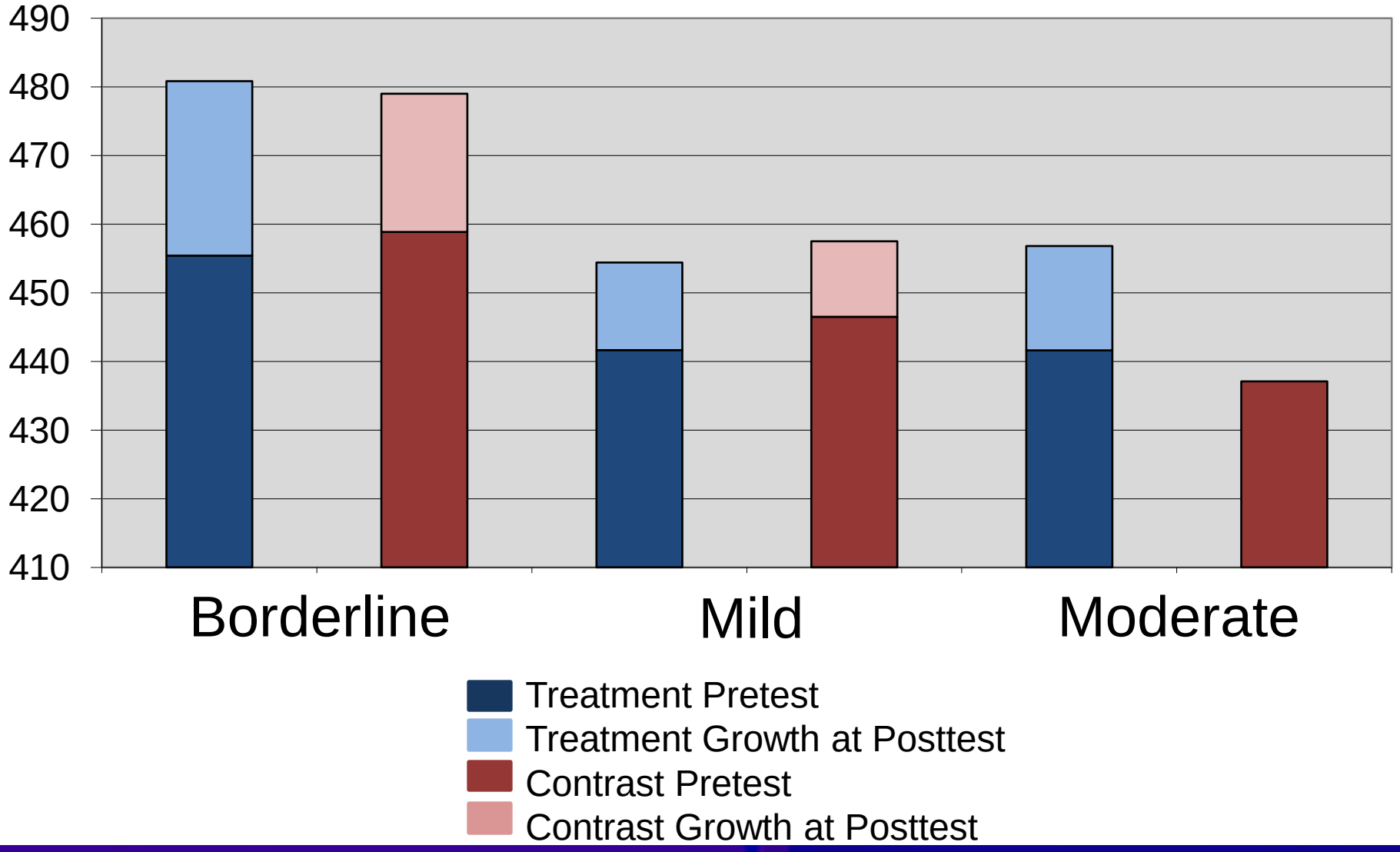
Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test
Pretest and Posttest Mean Standard Scores



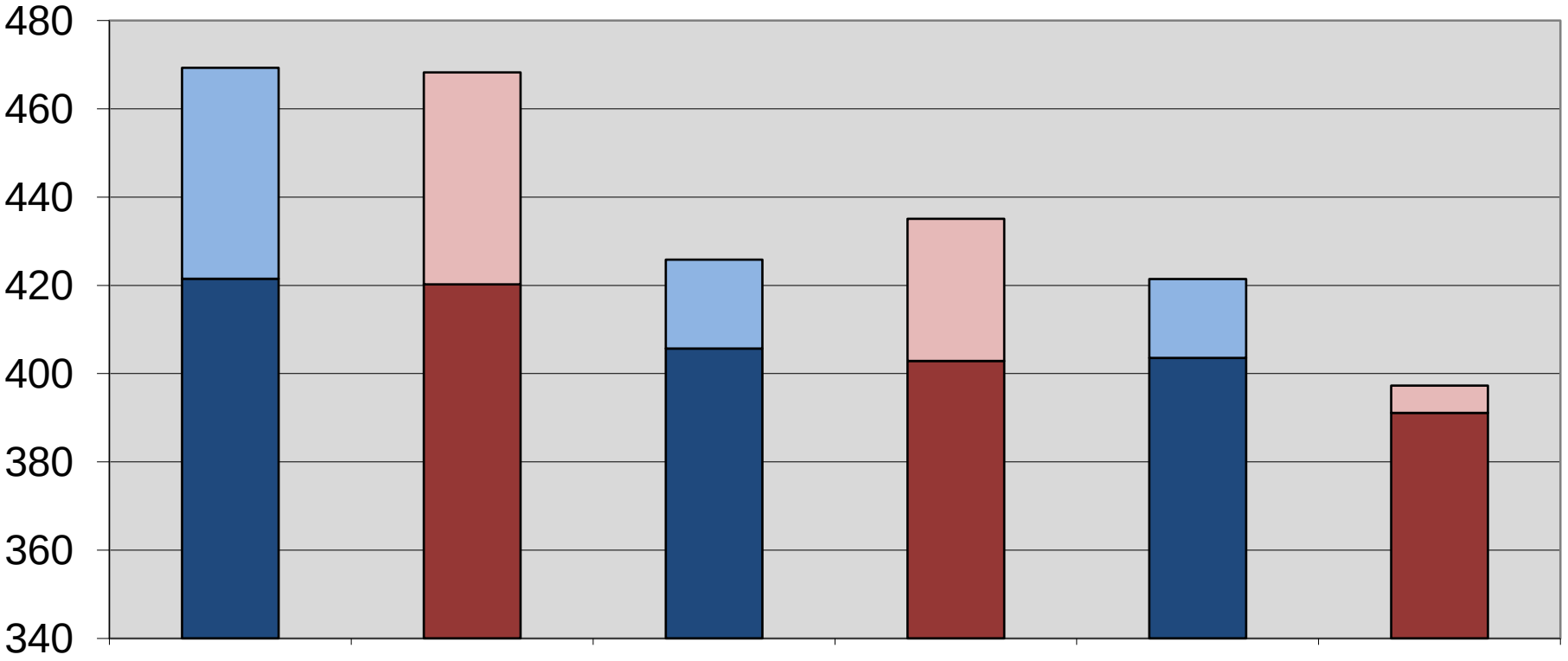
WLPB-R Letter-Word ID Test
Pretest and Posttest Mean W Scores



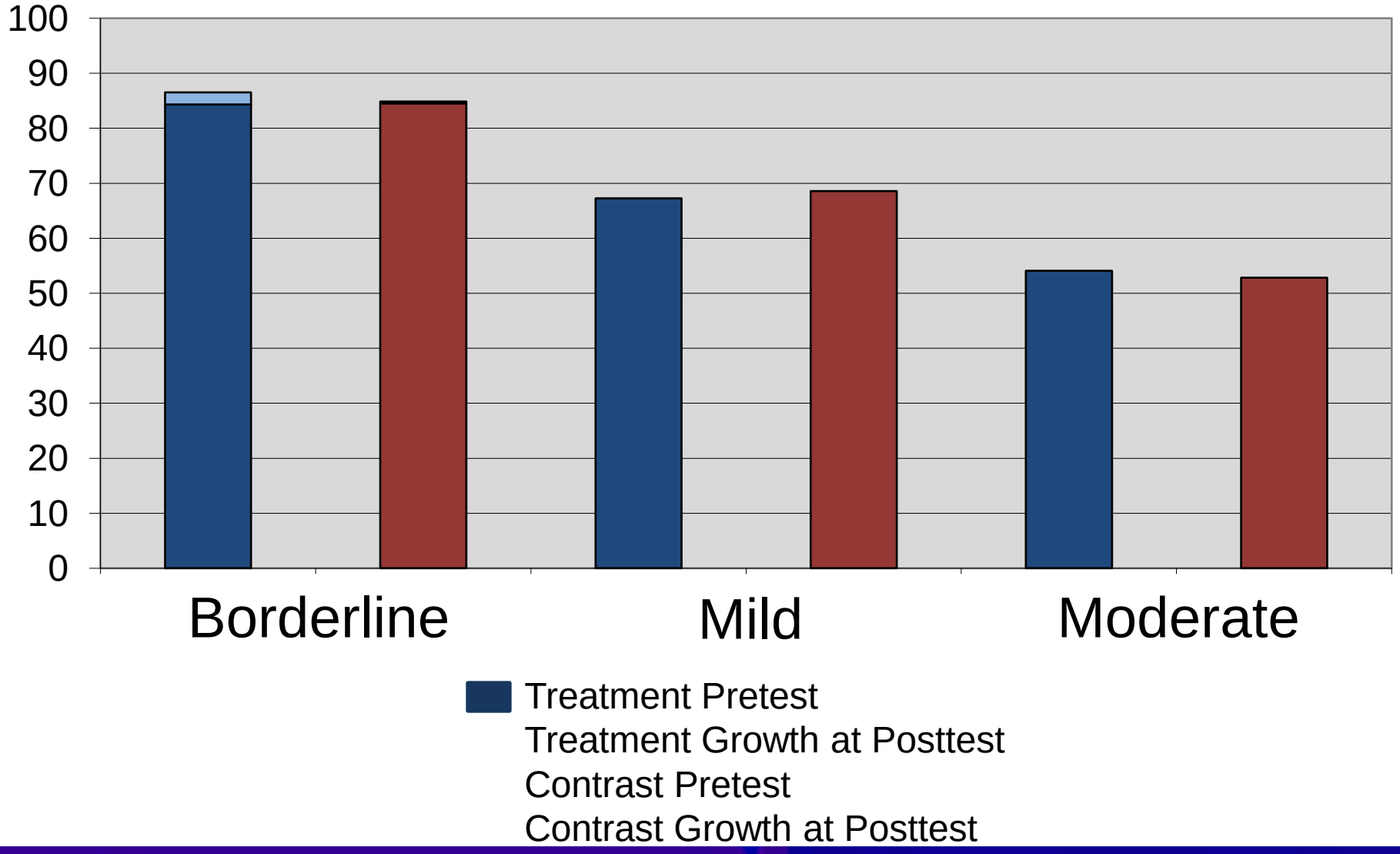
WLPB-R Word Attack Test
Pretest and Posttest Mean W Scores



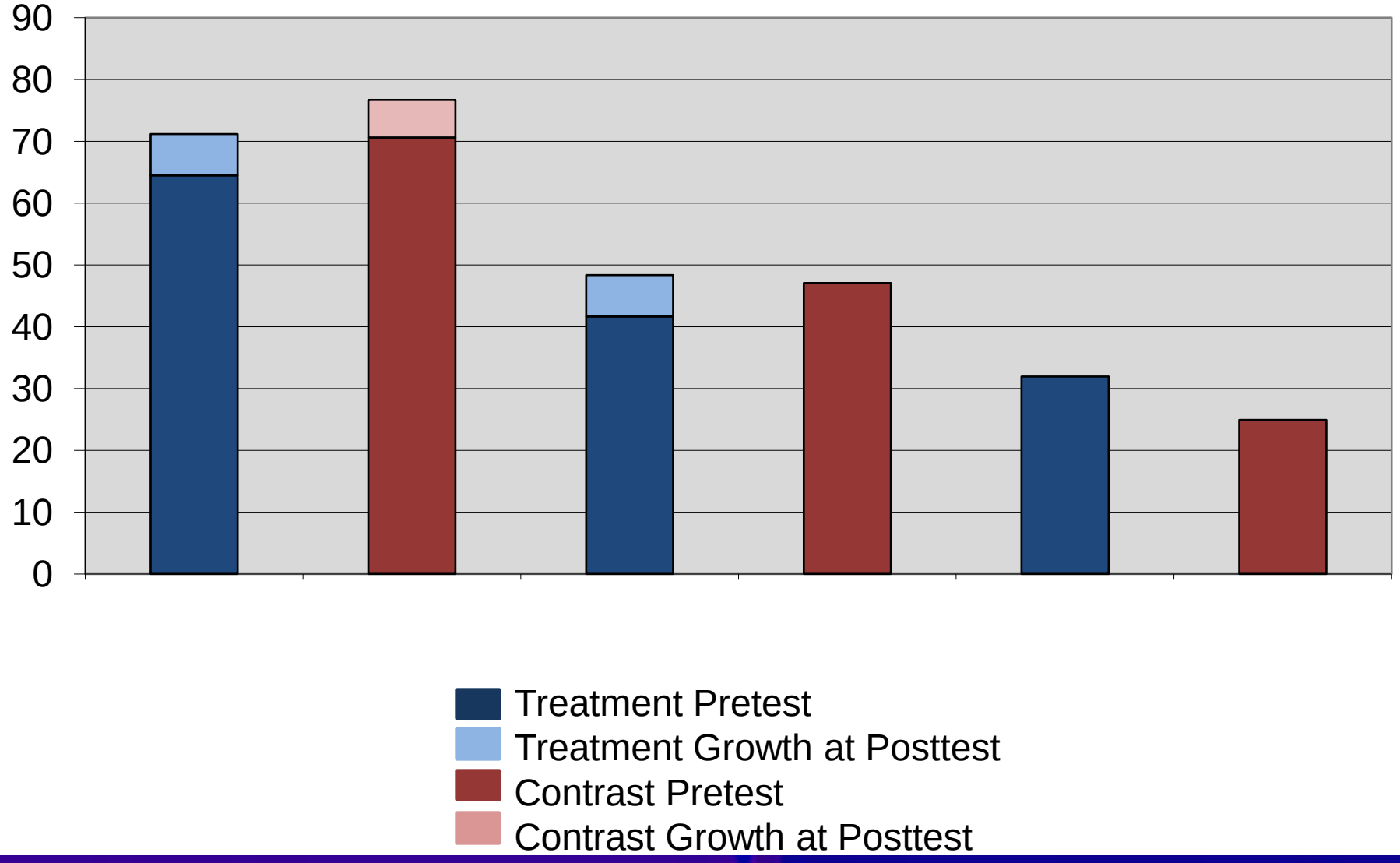
WLPB



WLPB-R Passage Comprehension Test Pretest and Posttest Mean Standard Scores



WLPB-R Listening Comprehension Test Pretest and Posttest Mean Standard Scores



Summary of Findings

- students with IQs in the moderate range who participated in the treatment significantly outperformed similar peers on virtually all measures
- students with IQs in the mild range who participated in the treatment performed similarly to peers in the contrast group
- on most measures, students with IQs in the moderate range, on average, made gains similar to students with IQs in the mild range

Progress Monitoring Results for Students with Mild ID (as of March 09)

- PSF
  - 10/20 met benchmark of 35
  - (other scores: 29, 11, 8, 24, 9, 14, 10, 16, 17, 29)
- NWF
  - 8/20 met benchmark of 50
  - (other scores: 23, 12, 23, 34, 27, 13, 27, 28, 5, 15, 25, 47)

Progress Monitoring Results for Students with Moderate ID

- PSF
  - 7/16 met benchmark of 35
  - (other scores: 30, 7, 10, 33, 23, 34, 20, 23, 15)
- NWF
  - 7/16 met benchmark of 50
  - (other scores: 47, 14, 37, 10, 38, 34, 35, 7, 30)

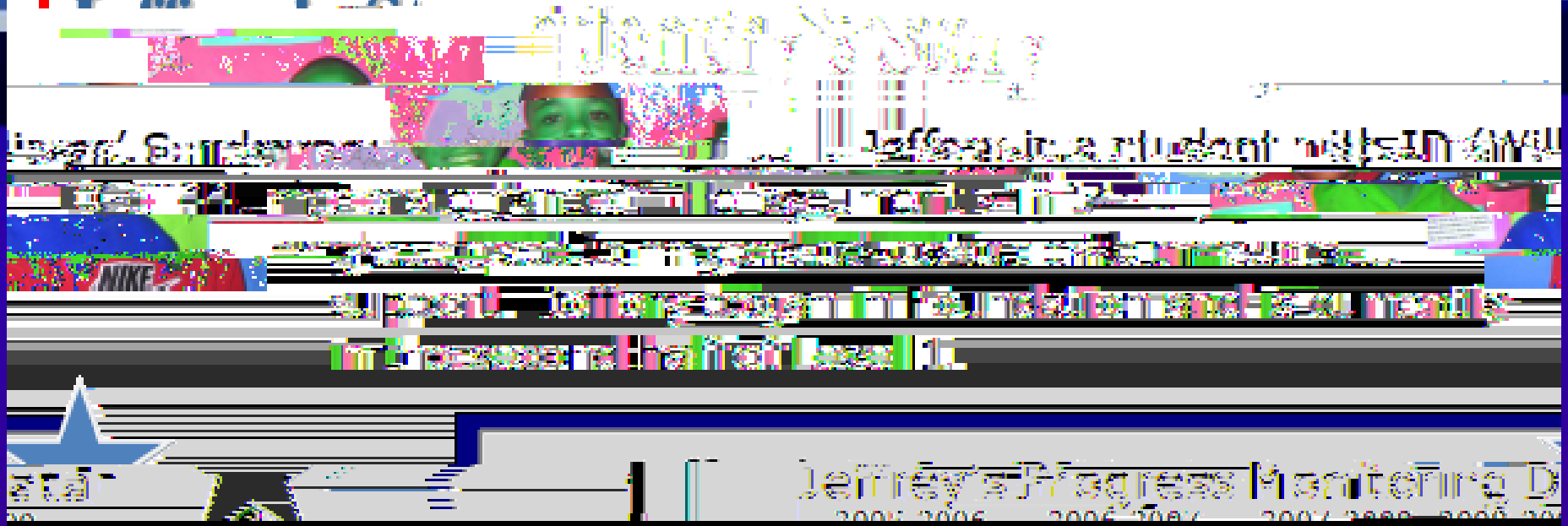
Progress Monitoring Results on Oral Reading Fluency

- Students with Mild ID
  - 8/20 met first-grade benchmark of 40
  - Mean 46.65 (range 162-1))
- Students with Moderate ID
  - 7/16 met first-grade benchmark of 40
  - Mean 38.38 (range 99-3)

Results: Current Pl 0.0emt 5p̲in the

Halfway through Level One Students…

- Identify most common sound for all individual letters
- Read words made up of those letters
  - Ex: last, mom, slip, step
- Apply basic comprehension strategies
  - Ex: retelling, sequencing events, story grammar



Conclusions

- students with ID, even those with IQs in the moderate range, can learn basic reading skills given consistent, explicit, and comprehensive reading instruction across an extended period of time

Conclusions

- It takes a long time, but techniques effective for those with reading disabilities are also effective for students with ID.
- Instruction must be individualized, especially with regard to pacing and behavior management.
- Recommended Resource:*Teaching Word Recognition to Struggling Reade*rs by Rollanda O'Connor

Project Maximize

- Principal Investigators
  - Dr. Jill Allor
  - Dr. Patricia Mathes
  - Dr. Kyle Roberts
- Project Coordinators
  - Tammi Champlin
  - Dr. Francesca Jones

- For further information:
  - www.smu.edu/Maximize
  - maximize@smu.edu

Southern Methodist University
Department of Teaching and Learning
Institute for Reading Research