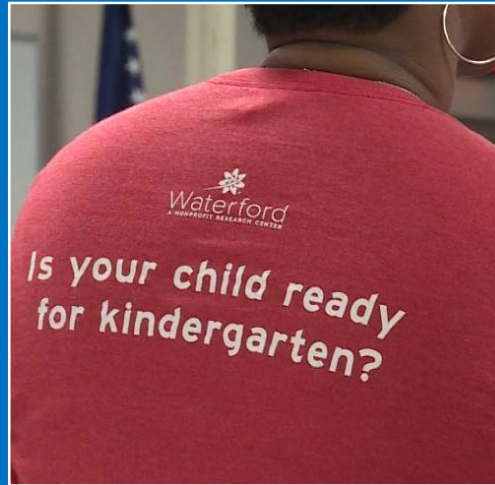


UPSTART United: Preparing Students Today
for A Rewarding Tomorrow



Waterford | **UPSTART**

New Mexico Pilot Program



About Waterford UPSTART

- Waterford UPSTART is an **in-home kindergarten readiness program** that was created by the Utah State Legislature in 2009.
- Preschool-age children use **Waterford UPSTART software in the home for 15-20 minutes a day**, five days a week.
- Children receive a **personalized curriculum in reading, math and science** with an emphasis on reading.
- **Strong parental engagement.** Each family is assigned a coach; Waterford UPSTART forms a partnership with parents and caregivers to ensure all children obtain the education necessary for success in school.
- **Social-emotional learning** is modeled in the software learning sequence and developed by parents through off-line activities.
- **Computers and internet service are provided** if the home does not have them.

New Mexico Pilot Background

Standards Aligned, Developmentally Appropriate, Endorsed for Special Education

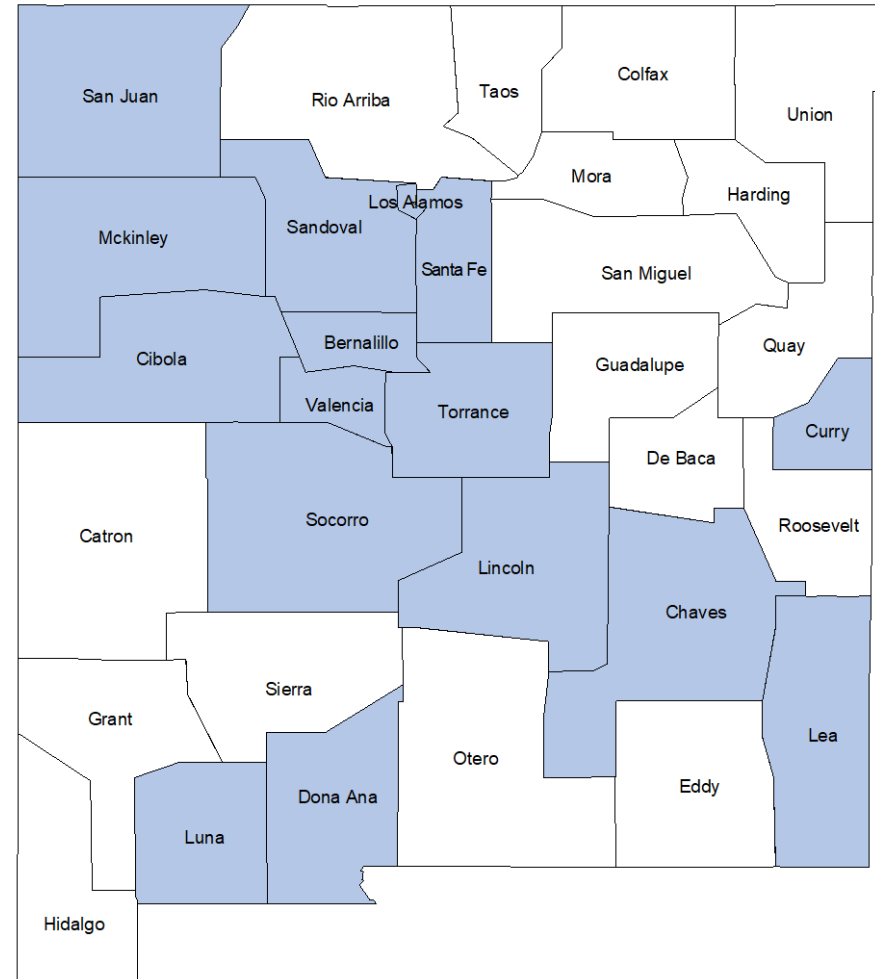
Waterford UPSTART is aligned to:

- **New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines: Birth through Kindergarten;**
- Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework;
- NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards;
- CASEL Social and Emotional Learning Competencies; and
- Endorsed by the Council of Administrators of Special Education.



New Mexico Pilot Background

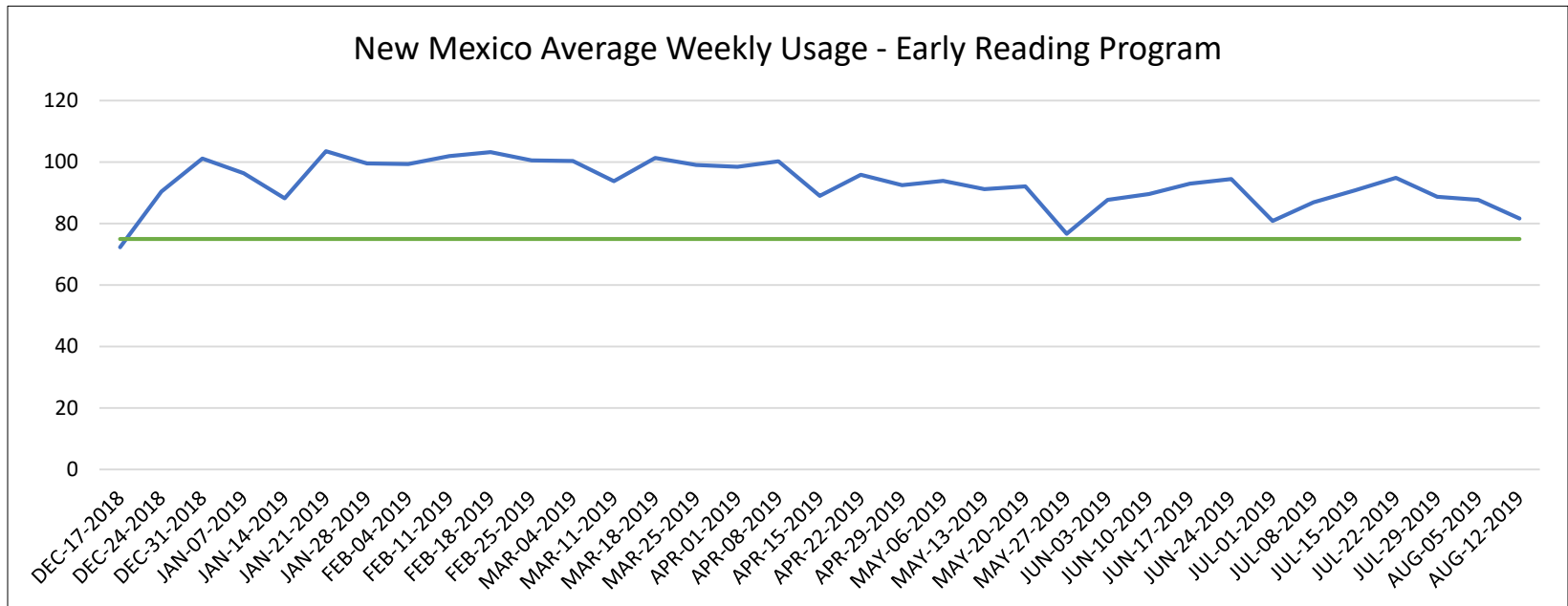
- Approximately **244 preschool-age children** participated in the New Mexico UPSTART pilot.
- Families began in-person trainings and initial student assessments in **December 2018** and the pilot was completed with in-person final student assessments and local graduation events for families in late **August 2019**.
- While **most families were from the Albuquerque area**, the scope of the pilot included children from **21 school districts** in **16 different counties** across the state.



Average Weekly Usage

The following chart shows New Mexico participants' average usage of Waterford.org's Early Reading Program on a weekly basis, as shown by the blue line. The green line indicates the recommended usage criterion of 75 minutes per week.

- For **34 out of 35 weeks**, average weekly usage exceeded the recommended usage requirement of 75 minutes per week, representing significant parental engagement under the New Mexico pilot.
- The average reading usage for New Mexico participants was **93.09 minutes per week**.



Waterford Assessments of Core Skills (WACS)

- WACS is a computerized adaptive test of early literacy for students in pre-kindergarten through second grade with initial content validity established against state and national standards. All items were calibrated for item response theory to determine item difficulty.
- To establish concurrent validity and predictive validity, student performance on WACS was compared to performance on five commonly-used standardized tests also measuring reading skills:
 - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS),
 - Texas Primary Reading Indicator (TPRI),
 - Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI),
 - Iowa Tests of Basis Skills (ITBS), and
 - Stanford Achievement Test Series (SAT 100).
- All correlations between tests are highly significant.

Waterford Assessments of Core Skills (WACS)

CURRICULUM *Correlation*

*Waterford Early Learning
PreK Sequence*

100%

*New Mexico
Early Learning
Guidelines:
Birth through
Kindergarten*



Waterford UPSTART is correlated to the New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines: Birth through Kindergarten

The following table shows the question **difficulty ranges for WACS by grade.**

Grade	Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Preschool	1001 - 1333	1334 - 1666	1667 - 2000
K	2001 - 2333	2334 - 2666	2667 - 3000
1	3001 - 3333	3334 - 3666	3667 - 4000
2	4001 - 4333	4334 - 4666	4667 - 5000

WACS Results

- Children’s outcomes averaged at the “Kindergarten Intermediate” level, where most children score mid-point during the kindergarten year.
- 93.63% of children scored at “Kindergarten Beginning” or above, demonstrating strong school readiness outcomes.

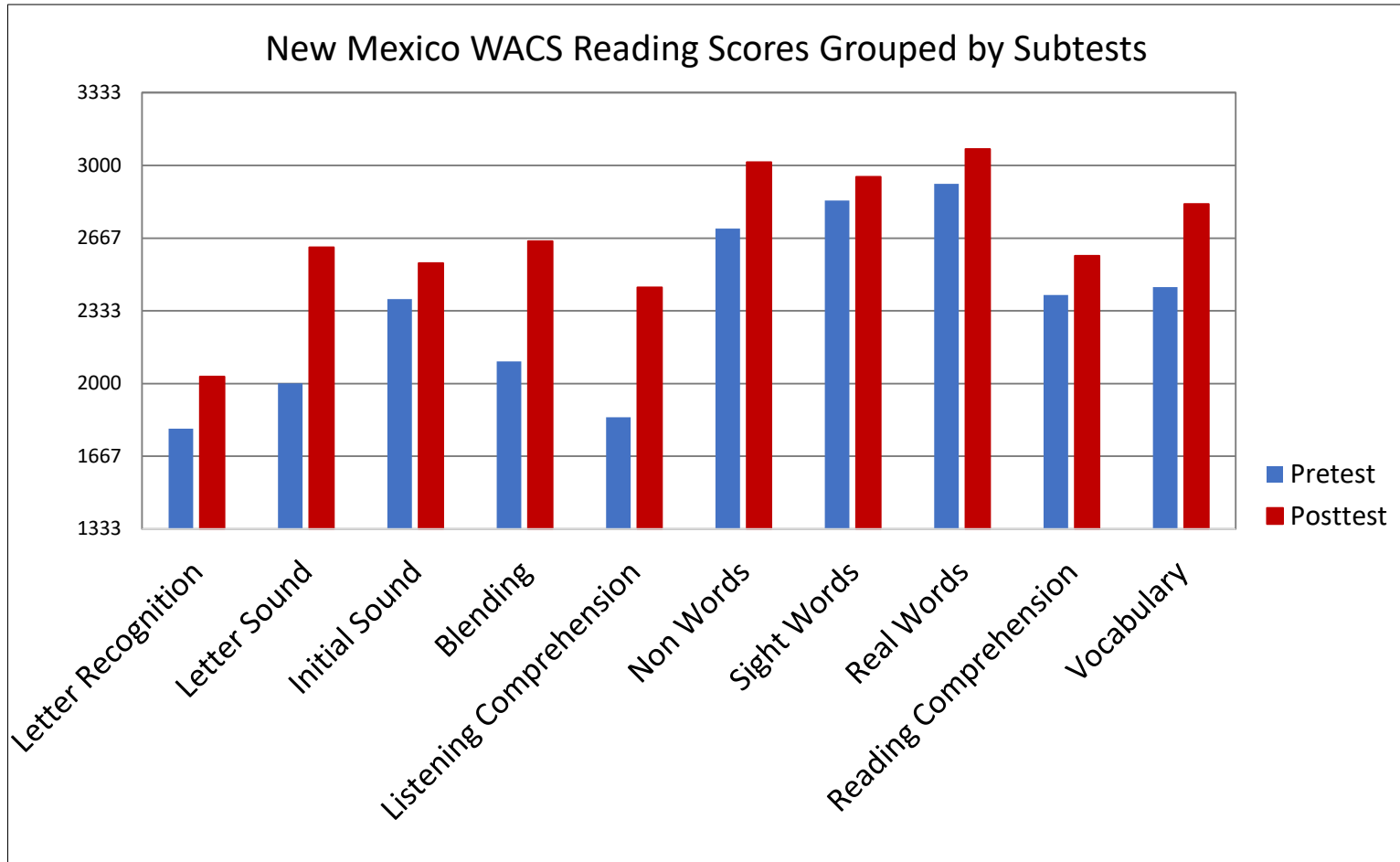
The following table shows **mean final WACS subtest scores and their grade equivalents** for the New Mexico pilot:

Measured Individual Skill	Final WACS Score	Grade Equivalent
Letter Recognition	2033	Kindergarten Beginning*
Letter Sound	2624	Kindergarten Intermediate
Initial Sound	2551	Kindergarten Intermediate
Blending	2653	Kindergarten Intermediate
Listening Comprehension	2441	Kindergarten Intermediate
Non-Words	3015	1 st Grade Beginning
Sight Words	2947	Kindergarten Advanced
Real Words	3075	1 st Grade Beginning
Reading Comprehension	2585	Kindergarten Intermediate
Vocabulary	2823	Kindergarten Advanced

* Highest possible level for this skill

WACS Results

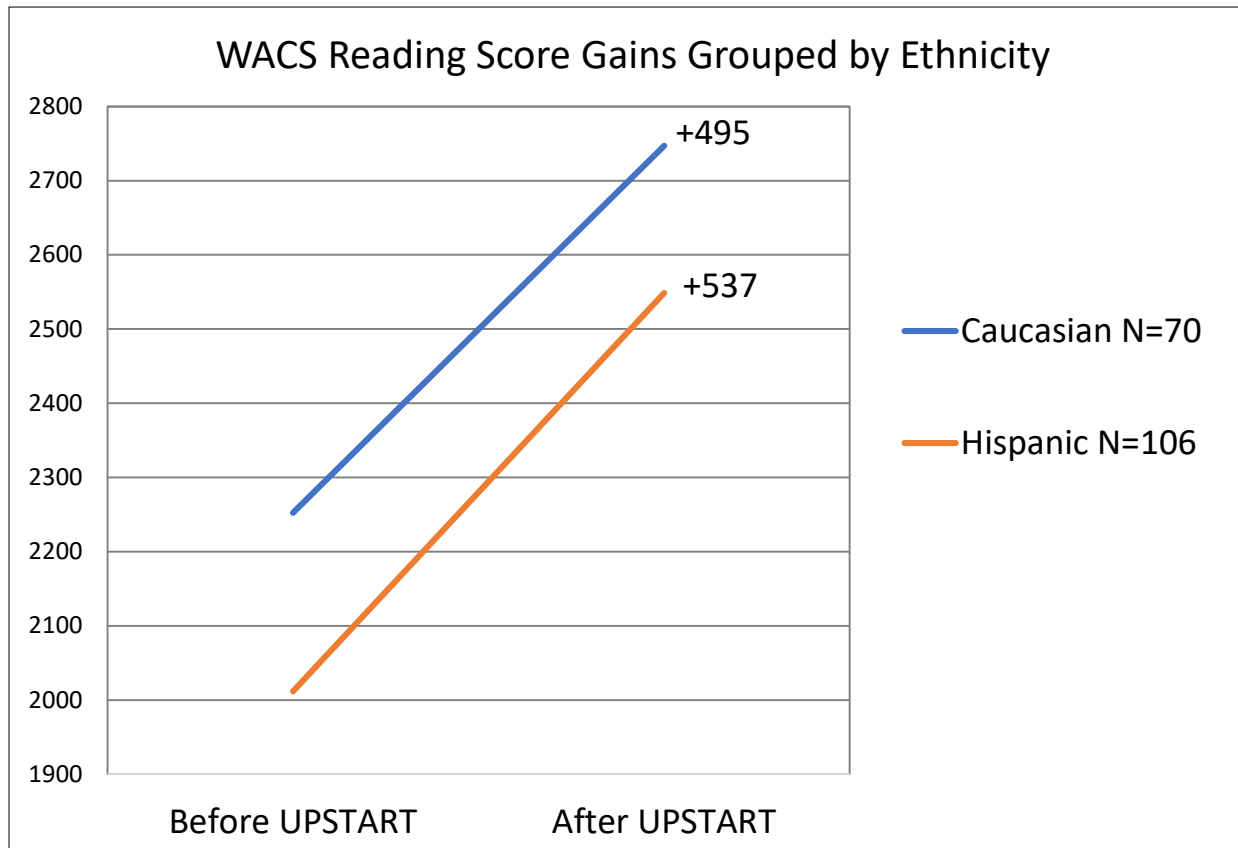
The following chart shows **mean results for WACS pretest and posttest**, grouped by subtests for the New Mexico Pilot:



WACS Results

- Hispanic children demonstrated higher point gains than Caucasian children.

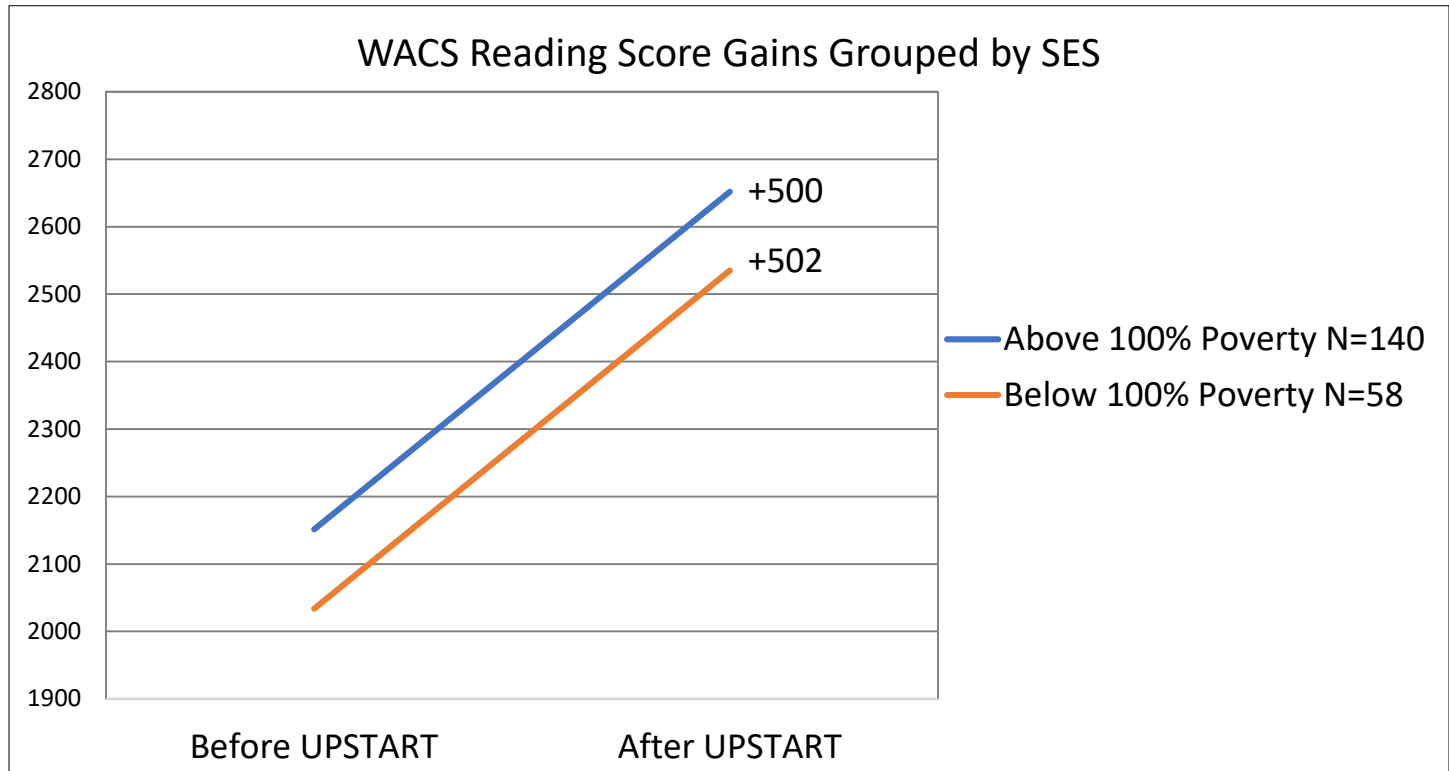
The following chart shows **WACS gains grouped by ethnicity**. The numbers within the graph indicate point score gains from pretest to posttest.



WACS Results

- Children from low-income families demonstrated higher point gains than their more affluent peers.

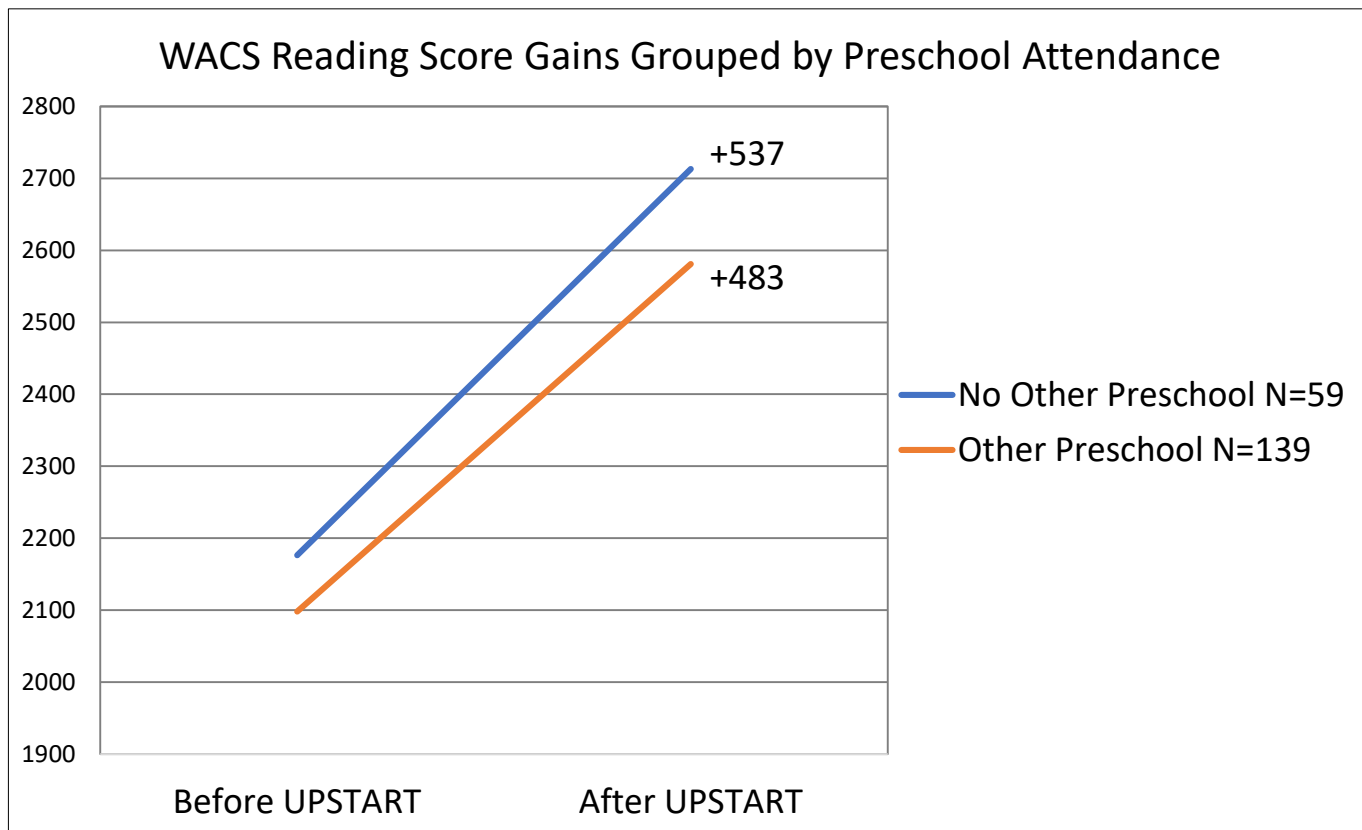
The following chart shows **WACS gains grouped by socioeconomic status (SES)**. The numbers within the graph indicate point score gains from pretest to posttest.



WACS Results

- Children that participated in Waterford UPSTART and had no other preschool outperformed children who attended preschool and participated in UPSTART.

The following chart shows **WACS gains grouped by preschool attendance**. The numbers within the graph indicate point score gains from pretest to posttest.



Questions?



Waterford

UPSTART

GRACIAS DZIĘKI CẢM ƠN
СПАСИБО GRAZIE
TAK **THANK YOU** MERCI

DÊKUJI AITĀH ありがとうございます
謝謝 OBRIGADO TACK DANKE
HVALA TACK TEŞEKKÜRLER

