



# CSESA

The Center on Secondary Education for  
Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

## A Comprehensive Approach to Supporting Students With ASD in High School

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# Beginning with Acknowledgements and Thanks You

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# About CSESA

- Research & Development Center
- Funded by the Department of Education (IES)
- Purpose: To develop and study a comprehensive high school program for students on the autism spectrum



# The Goal of CSESA

To improve post-secondary outcomes for students by using high quality professional development and evidence-based interventions to support practitioners, families, and students





FOR YOUR SUBJECTS  
WHEN THEY GRADUATE:

- 1) SOMETHING TO DO
- 2) SOMEWHERE TO BE
- 3) SOMEONE TO LOVE.

GOOD LUCK!!

# Original CSESA Collaborators



VANDERBILT  
KENNEDY CENTER  
for Research on Human Development



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY



UNCCHARLOTTE



UNC  
FRANK PORTER GRAHAM  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

UCDAVIS  
MIND INSTITUTE

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TEXAS  
AT AUSTIN

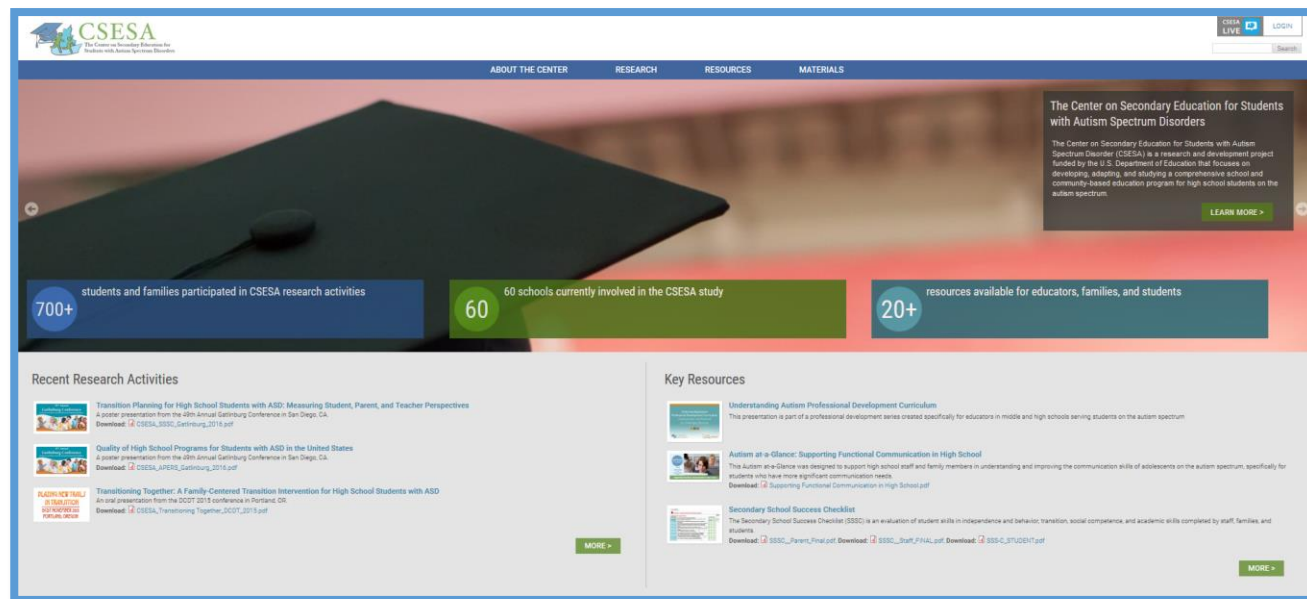


WAISMAN CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities



# Find CSESA

<http://csesa.fpg.unc.edu/>



The screenshot shows the CSESA website homepage. At the top is the CSESA logo and navigation links: ABOUT THE CENTER, RESEARCH, RESOURCES, MATERIALS. A large banner features a graduation cap and text: "The Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders". Below the banner are three statistics: "700+ students and families participated in CSESA research activities", "60 schools currently involved in the CSESA study", and "20+ resources available for educators, families, and students". The main content area is divided into "Recent Research Activities" and "Key Resources".

**Recent Research Activities**

- Transition Planning for High School Students with ASD: Measuring Student, Parent, and Teacher Perspectives  
A poster presentation from the 48th Annual Galatburg Conference in San Diego, CA.  
Download: [CSESA\\_333C\\_Galatburg\\_2016.pdf](#)
- Quality of High School Programs for Students with ASD in the United States  
A poster presentation from the 48th Annual Galatburg Conference in San Diego, CA.  
Download: [CSESA\\_APR0\\_Galatburg\\_2016.pdf](#)
- Transitioning Together: A Family-Centered Transition Intervention for High School Students with ASD  
An oral presentation from the DOST 2015 conference in Portland, OR.  
Download: [CSESA\\_Transitioning\\_Together\\_2015.pdf](#)

**Key Resources**

- Understanding Autism Professional Development Curriculum  
This presentation is part of a professional development series created specifically for educators in middle and high schools serving students on the autism spectrum.
- Autism at a Glance: Supporting Functional Communication in High School  
The Autism at a Glance was designed to support high school staff and family members in understanding and improving the communication skills of adolescents on the autism spectrum, specifically for students who have more significant communication needs.  
Download: [Supporting Functional Communication in High School.pdf](#)
- Secondary School Success Checklist  
The Secondary School Success Checklist (SSSC) is an evaluation of student skills in independence and behavior, transition, social competence, and academic skills completed by staff, families, and students.  
Download: [SSSC\\_Parent\\_Final.pdf](#) Download: [SSSC\\_Staff\\_Final.pdf](#) Download: [SSSC-STUDENT.pdf](#)

[www.facebook.com/csesa.asd](http://www.facebook.com/csesa.asd)



The screenshot shows the CSESA Facebook page. The header includes the CSESA logo, page name "Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders", and navigation links: Timeline, Recent, Admin Panel. The main content area features a large photo of a student in a graduation cap and gown, raising their hand. Below the photo is the CSESA logo and page name. The page has 246 likes and 6 people talking about this. The "About" section describes the center as a multi-site research and development center.

**Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders**

246 likes · 6 talking about this

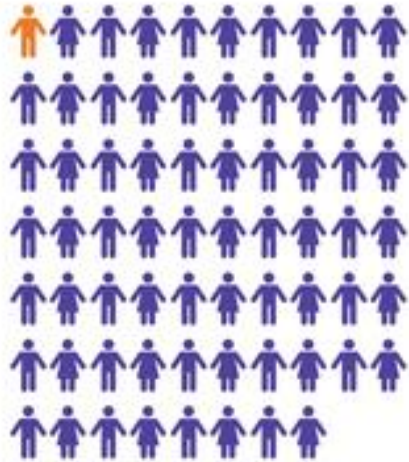
**About**

The Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (CSESA) is a multi-site research and development center.



# Autism in High Schools

NUMBER OF CHILDREN  
IDENTIFIED WITH ASD



**1 in 68**



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

- 14.9 million students in U.S between 9-12 grades
- $14.9\text{m} \times (1 \text{ in } 68) =$

**219,118**





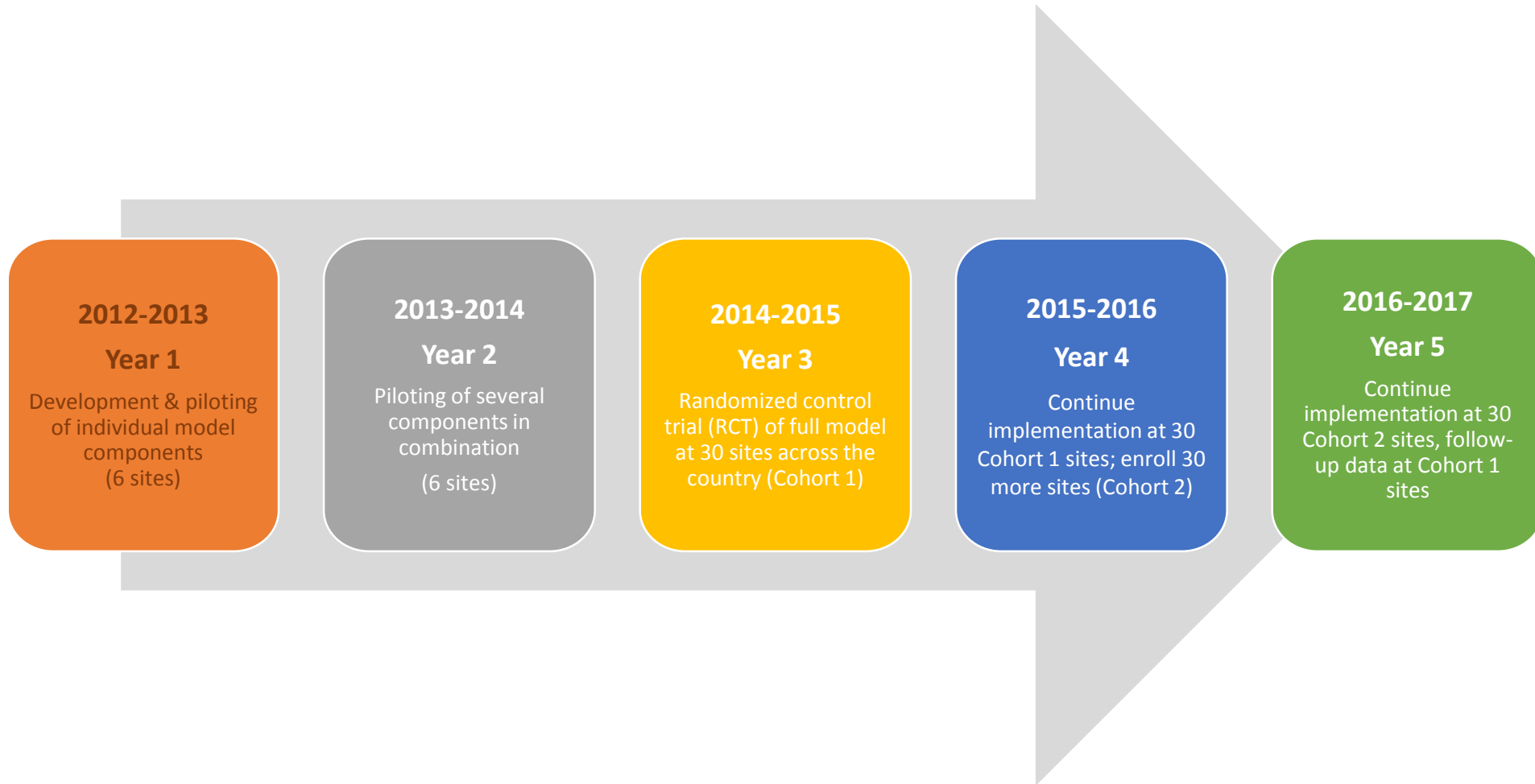
# What Are the Outcomes for Young Adults with Autism

What happened to young adults with autism  
between high school and their early 20s?



National Autism Indicators Report: Transition into Young Adulthood. A.J. Drexel Autism Institute's Life Course Outcomes Research Program, 2015. [drexel.lu/autismindicators](http://drexel.lu/autismindicators)

# The Big Picture



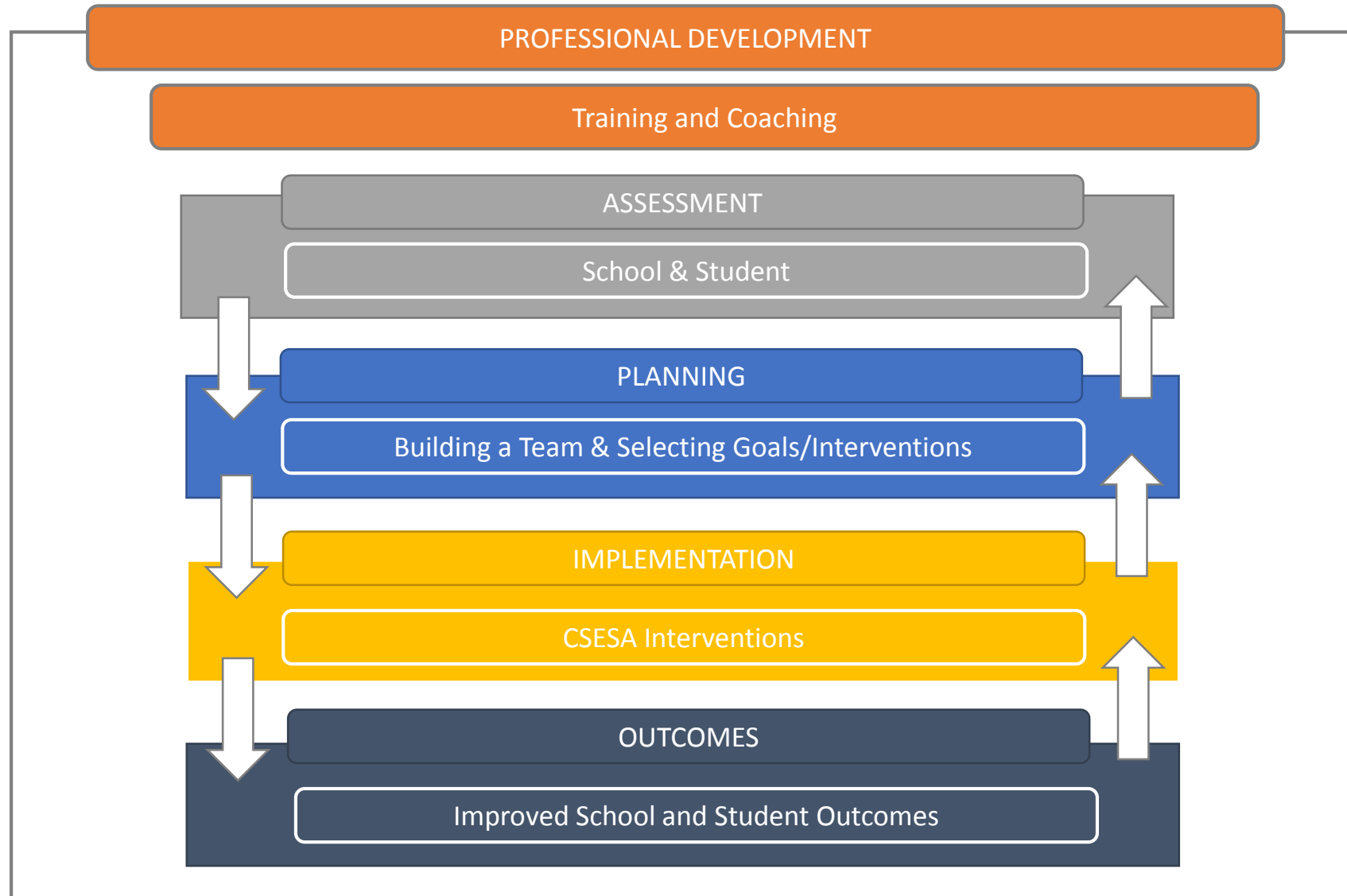
# CSESA By the Numbers

- **1,800** consented participants
- **546** adolescents with **ASD**
- **30** school districts across **5** states
- **60** schools
- **2,000** hours of professional development (per year)
- **21** peer-reviewed publications
- **55** international, national, state, and local conferences
- **130,000** page views with **27,000** downloads





# CSESA Process

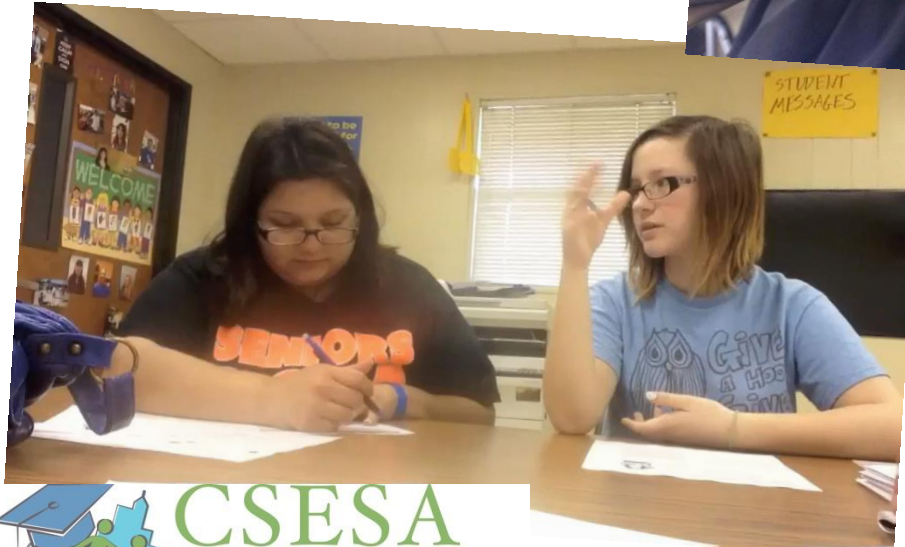
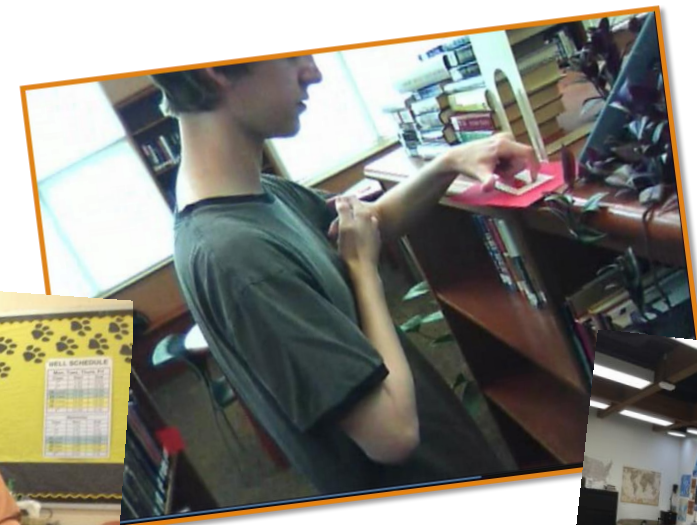


# CSESA Domains



- Partner with teams at each high school
  - Provide ongoing training and coaching in the implementation of specific interventions along with associated evidence-based practices
- Plan the implementation across a 2-year-period

# CSESA Domains





## CSESA School Planning- Middle Creek HS

	Year 1 – Fall	Year 1 - Spring	Year 2 – Fall	Year 2 - Spring
Professional Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intro to CSESA-9/5/14 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intro to ASD-9/5/14 <input type="checkbox"/> GAS training-11/19/14, 2:30-4:30 for special ed portion of A-team <input type="checkbox"/> Core Component trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peer Support (PLTs? Planning periods)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peer Network (PLTs? Planning periods)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SD-IEP (PLTs? Planning periods)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Core Component trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transition Planning Training</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> PRISM (PLTs? Planning periods)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> See Fall if not completed</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> EBP Trainings (as needed)  <input type="checkbox"/> SCI-H Training at the end of semester to prepare for Spring (social skills groups)	<input type="checkbox"/> Review: Intro to ASD (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> Core Component trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transitioning Together Parent/Teen groups (Community person?)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work Based Learning Experiences (PLTs? Planning periods)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SCI-H Training</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> EBP Trainings (as needed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Core Component trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative Strategic Reading</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Achievement Literacy</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> EBP Trainings (as needed)
Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APERS-10/13/14 <input type="checkbox"/> SSS-C – IN progress <input type="checkbox"/> Y1 – Pre-assessment-Distributed	<input type="checkbox"/> SSS-C <input type="checkbox"/> Y1 Post-assessment (meeting)		<input type="checkbox"/> APERS <input type="checkbox"/> SSS-C <input type="checkbox"/> Y2 Post-assessment (meeting)
Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Community/School mapping <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APERS debrief & School planning-10/29/14 <input type="checkbox"/> GAS goal development-11/19 <input type="checkbox"/> Student planning-11/19	<input type="checkbox"/> School planning <input type="checkbox"/> Student planning (if needed)	<input type="checkbox"/> School planning <input type="checkbox"/> GAS goal development <input type="checkbox"/> Student planning	<input type="checkbox"/> APERS debrief & School planning
Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> Community and School Resource Mapping	<input type="checkbox"/> Launch implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supports</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peer Networks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> PRISM</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SD-IEP</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Launch implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue implementation from Spring</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> TT</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WBLE</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SCI-H</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Launch implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Continue implementation from previous semesters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative Strategic Reading</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Achievement Literacy</li> </ul>
Outcomes		<input type="checkbox"/> GAS goals <input type="checkbox"/> Core Component coaching <input type="checkbox"/> CSESA Y1 Debrief <input type="checkbox"/> Y1 Post-assessment (see above)	<input type="checkbox"/> Core Component coaching	<input type="checkbox"/> GAS goals <input type="checkbox"/> Core Component coaching <input type="checkbox"/> CSESA Y2 Debrief <input type="checkbox"/> Y2 Post-assessment (see above)



# CSESA

The Center on Secondary Education for  
Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

## Comprehensive Treatment Program for High School Students with Autism: Implementation and Efficacy

Samuel L. Odom, Kara A. Hume, Leann Duwalt-Smith,  
Laura J. Hall, and Bonnie Kraemer

# Research Questions Addressed by Efficacy Study

- What is the quality of programs for students with autism in America's high schools?
- Can a comprehensive model for secondary education for student with autism change the quality of high school programs for students with autism?
- How does one assess implementation of a complex services model?



# Efficacy Study of CSESA: Progress to Date

- Study Completed
- Analysis of Program Quality Data Completed
- Student Performance Data Being Entered
- Program Implementation Data in Process:
  - Measure created
  - Data collected and being entered

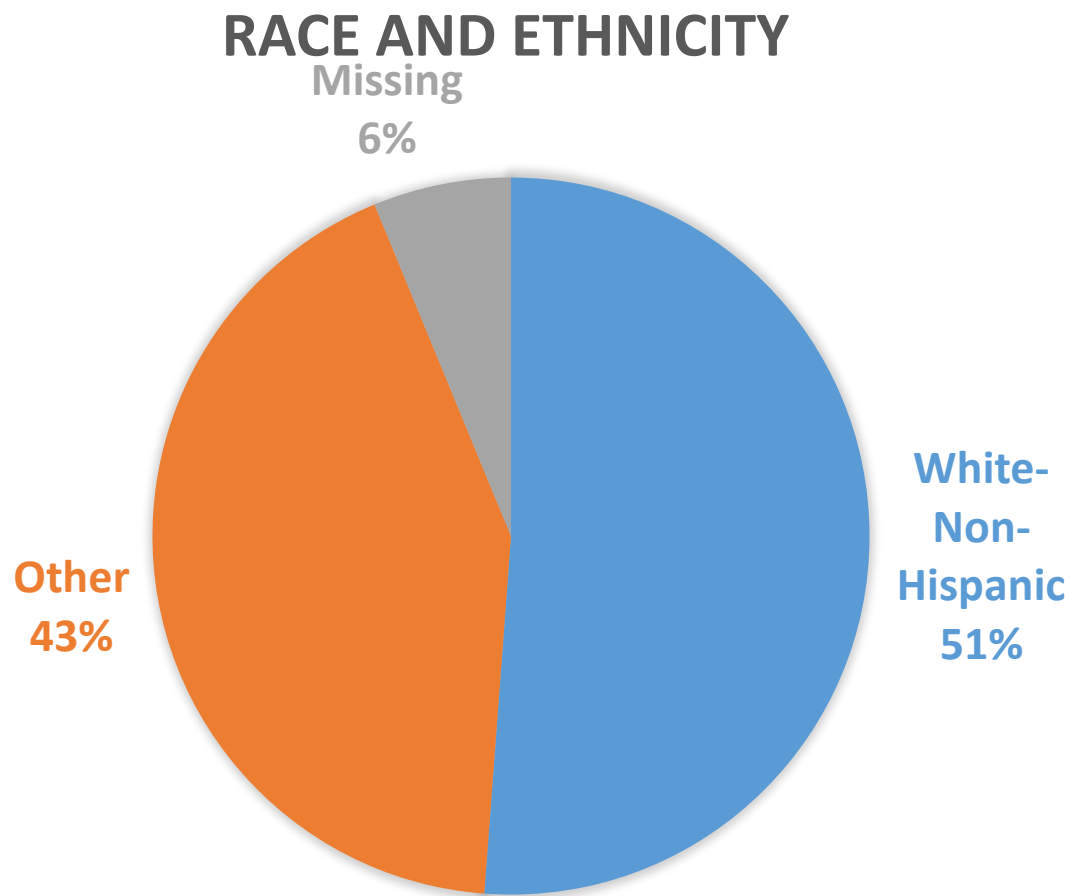


# Nature of the Sample

- 60 High Schools
  - 20 North Carolina
  - 20 Wisconsin
  - 20 California
- 543 High School Students
  - No differences between CSESA and SAU
  - Ethnically/racial diverse sample

Characteristic	Mean or % (SD)
Urbanicity	
Rural/Town	15.0
Suburb	45.0
City	40.0
Ethnicity	
White, non-Hispanic	51.3
Hispanic	24.1
Black, non-Hispanic	13.9
Asian	6.22
More than 2 races	3.75
American Indian/Alaskan	.520
Native Hawaiian	.290
SES(% Title 1 Eligible)	56.7
School Size	1890(70.1)

# Student Demographics

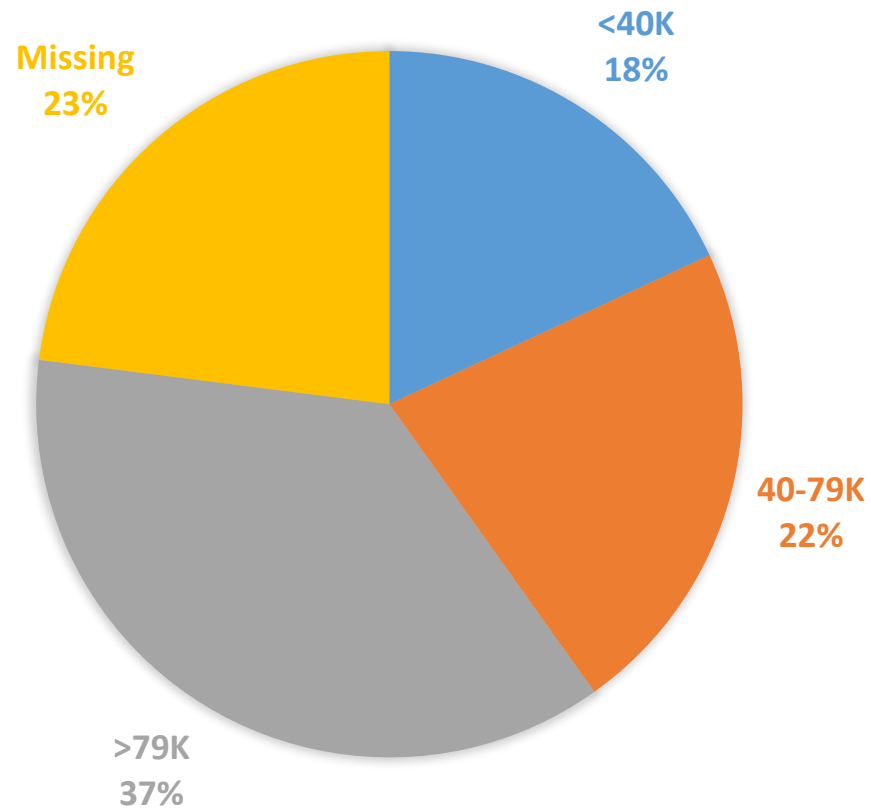


Race & Ethnicity	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	No ethnicity reported
American-Indian/Alaskan Native	4	10	
Asian	0	21	
Black/African-American	2	68	
White	58	280	
Multi-racial	11	25	1
Other	18	5	
No race reported	7	2	34

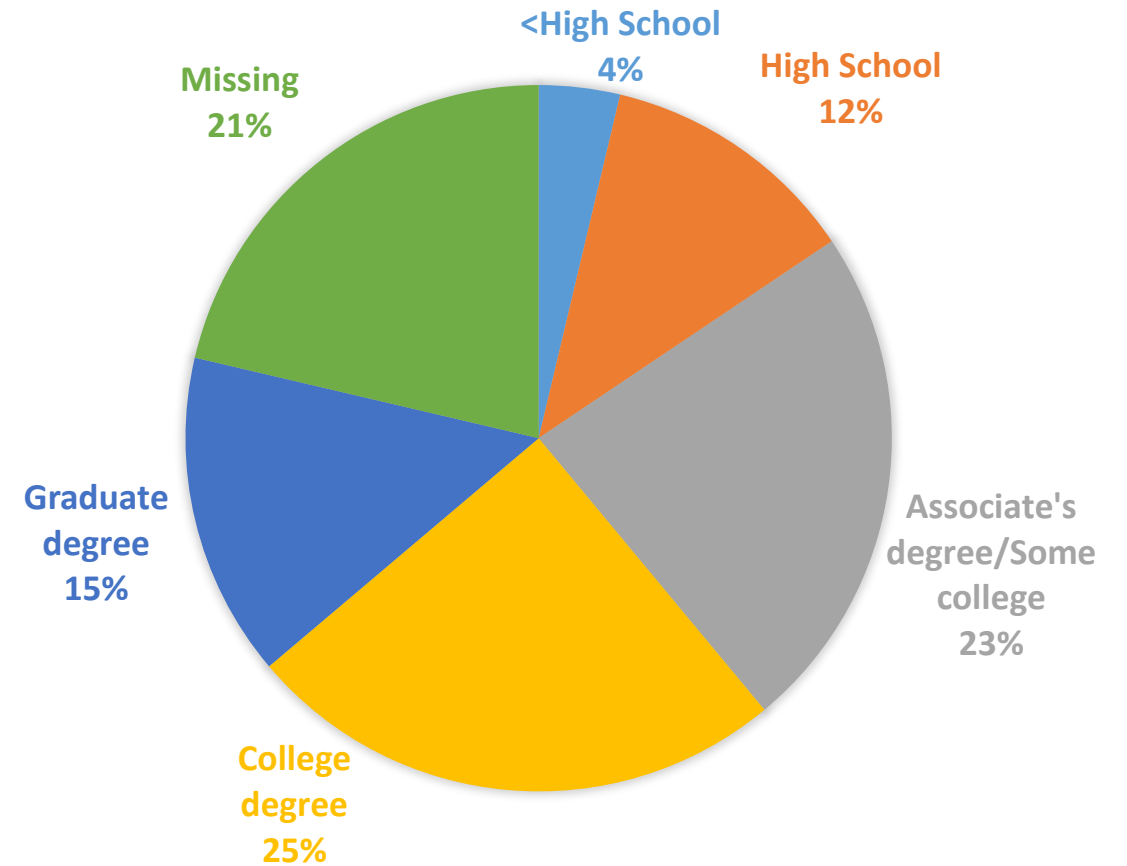


# Family Demographics

FAMILY INCOME



PRIMARY CAREGIVER'S EDUCATION

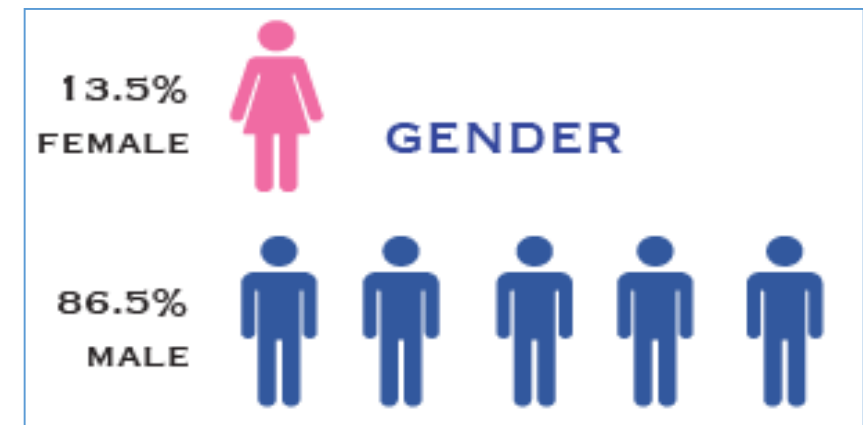


# Student Characteristics

- Wide range of students on the autism spectrum
- Diploma Status
  - 57% Standard Diploma
  - 43% Modified Diploma
- See Demographic Data for more information

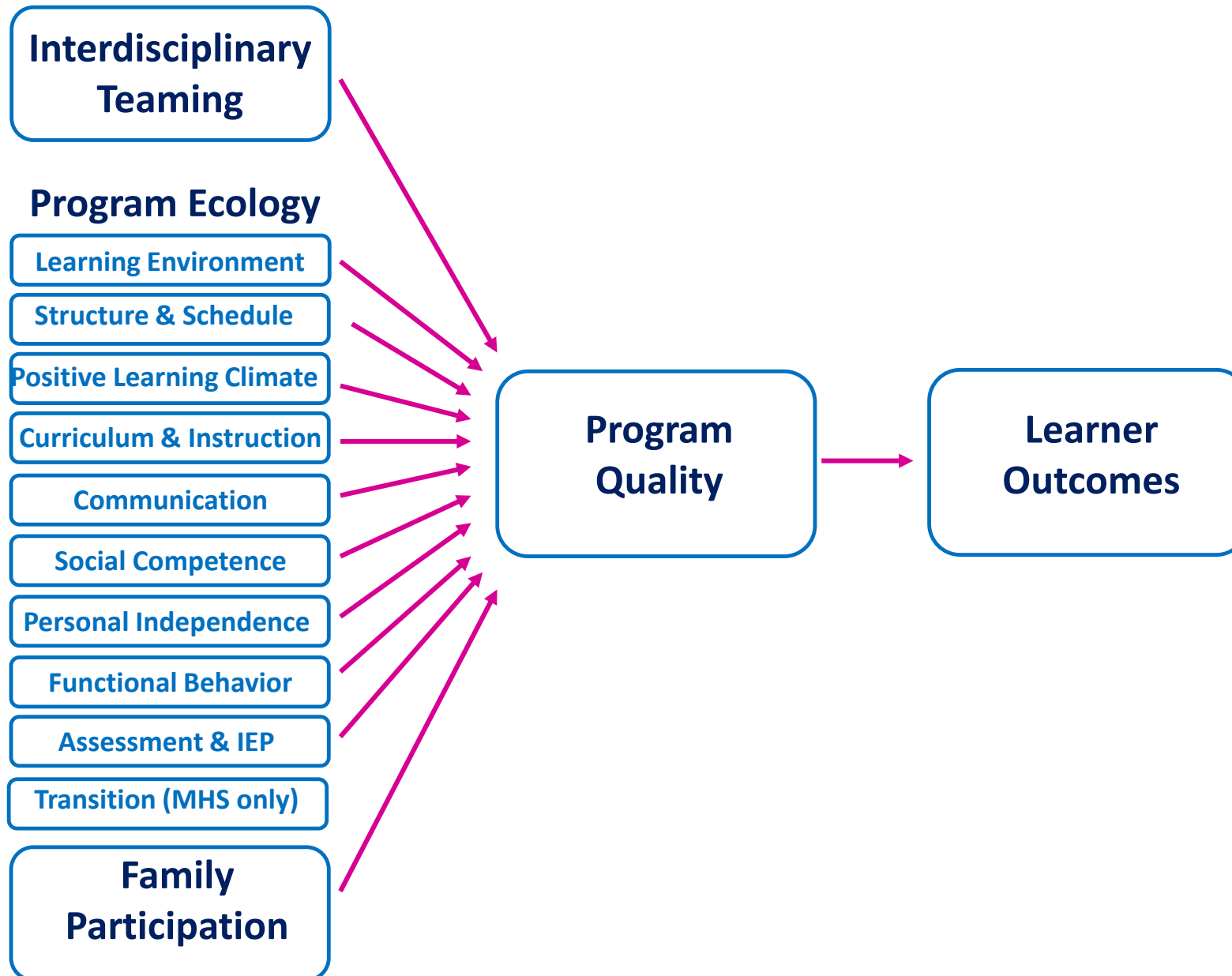


	Mean(SD)	Range
Social Responsiveness Scale-2 (n=502)	70.5 (12.3)	39-110 (82% ≥ 60)
Vineland Adaptive Behavior Composite Standard Score (n=454)	75.8 (16.6)	20-131
Leiter Non-Verbal IQ (n=490)	85.8 (27.2)	30-141



A vibrant red paint splatter with irregular, organic edges serves as the background for the text. The splatter is centered on a plain white background.

**QUALITY  
MATTERS**



# Assessment: School (APERS)

- **Purpose:** To look at environmental features and supports school has in place and areas for improvement
- **Participants:** Led by CSESA staff with support and participation from school staff
- **Procedures:** APERS consists of:
  - Observation
  - Interviews
  - Record reviews

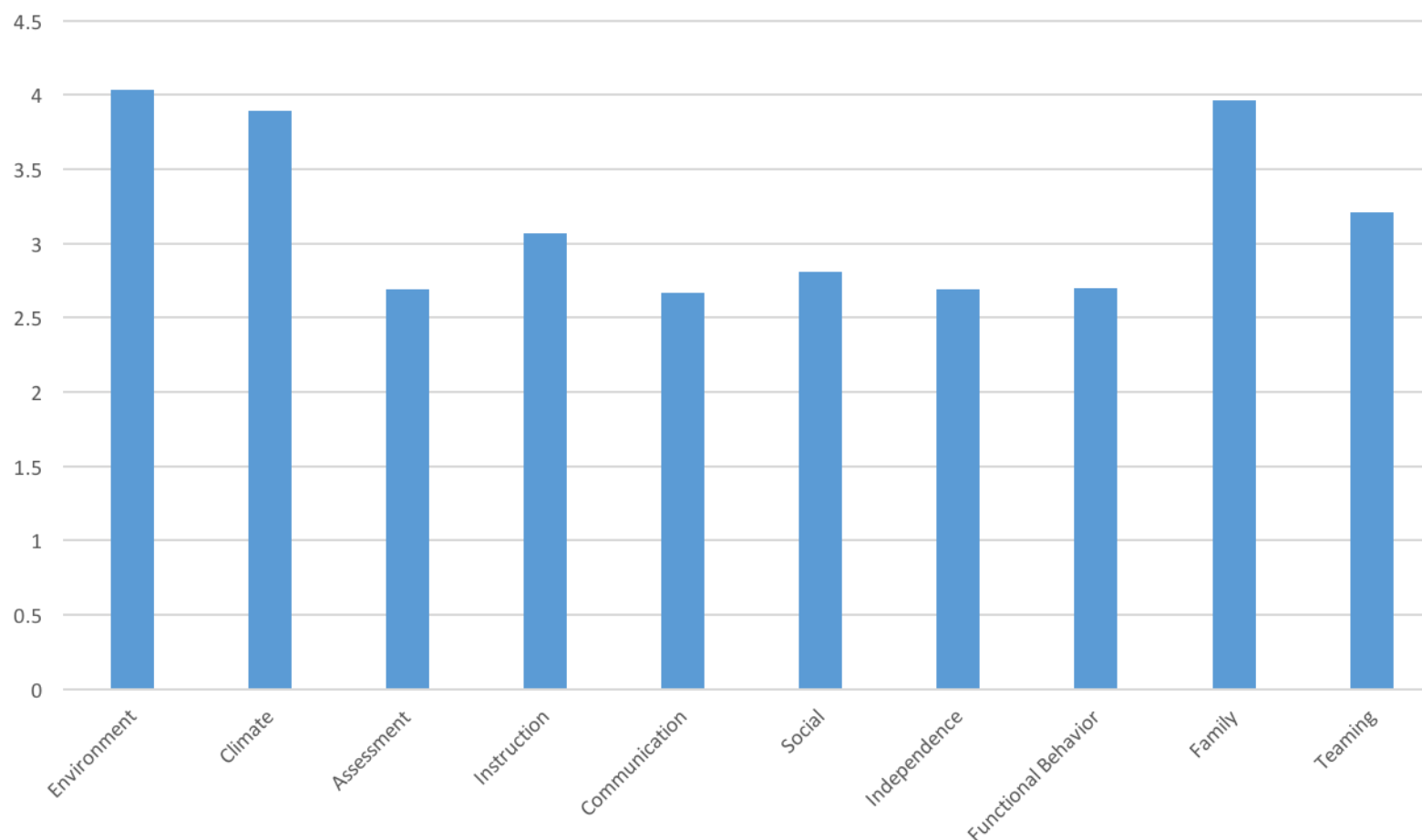


# Example

27\*

27*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team members consistently over-prompt students during instruction.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Team members consistently under-prompt or use no prompts during instruction.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> When team members use prompts only one form is used with students (e.g., physical, verbal, gestural).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> When needed, key team member uses a clear prompting hierarchy during instruction (e.g., less intensive prompts followed by increased support as needed).</li><li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> When needed, key team member uses a variety of prompts during instruction to meet individual student needs (e.g., physical, verbal, gestural).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> When needed team members use a clear prompting hierarchy during instruction (e.g., less intensive prompts, graduated guidance, simultaneous instruction).</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> When needed, team members use a variety of prompts to meet individual student needs.</li></ul>
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# Current State of Program Quality in U. S. n = 60 High Schools



# Urbanicity

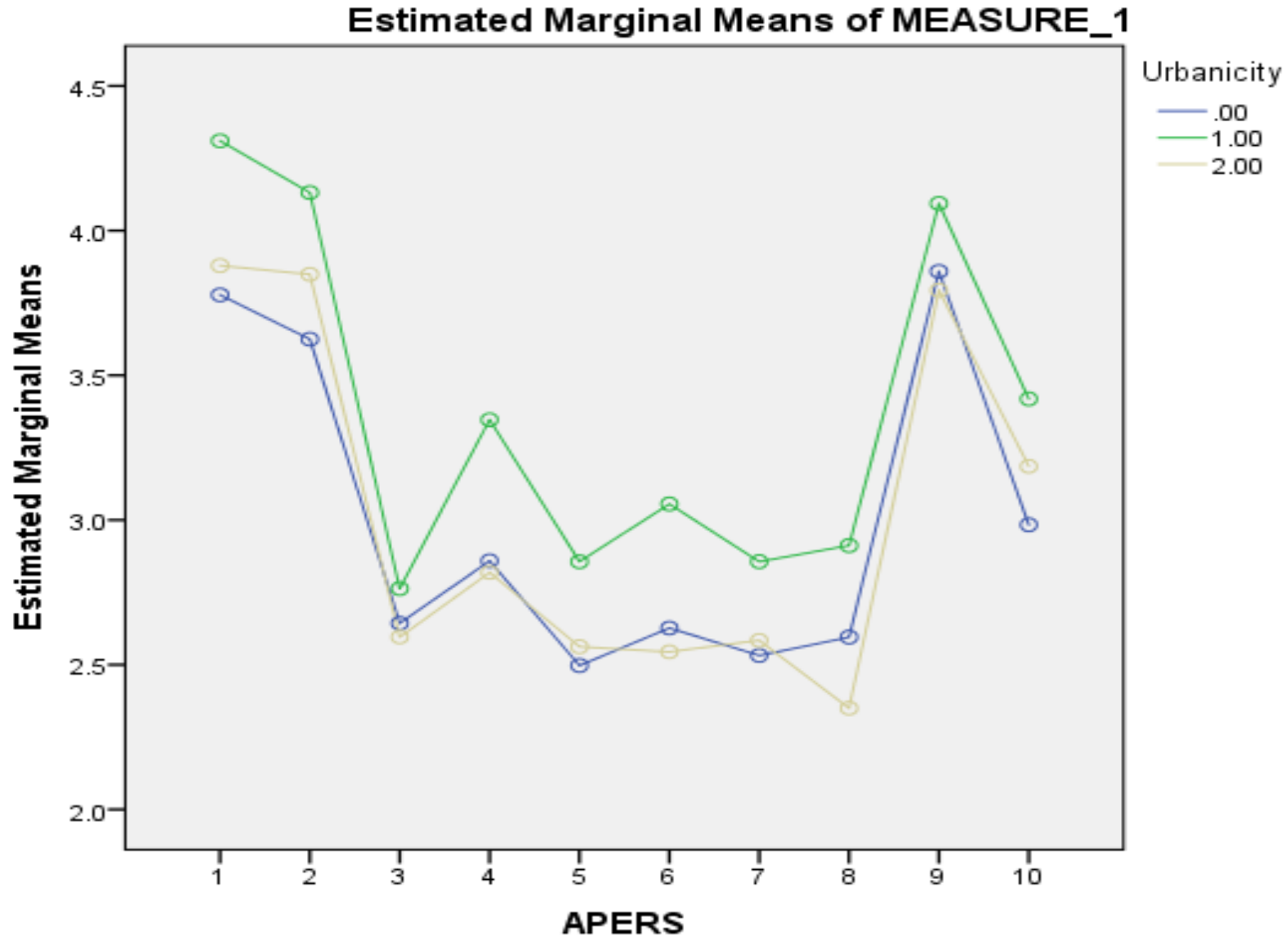
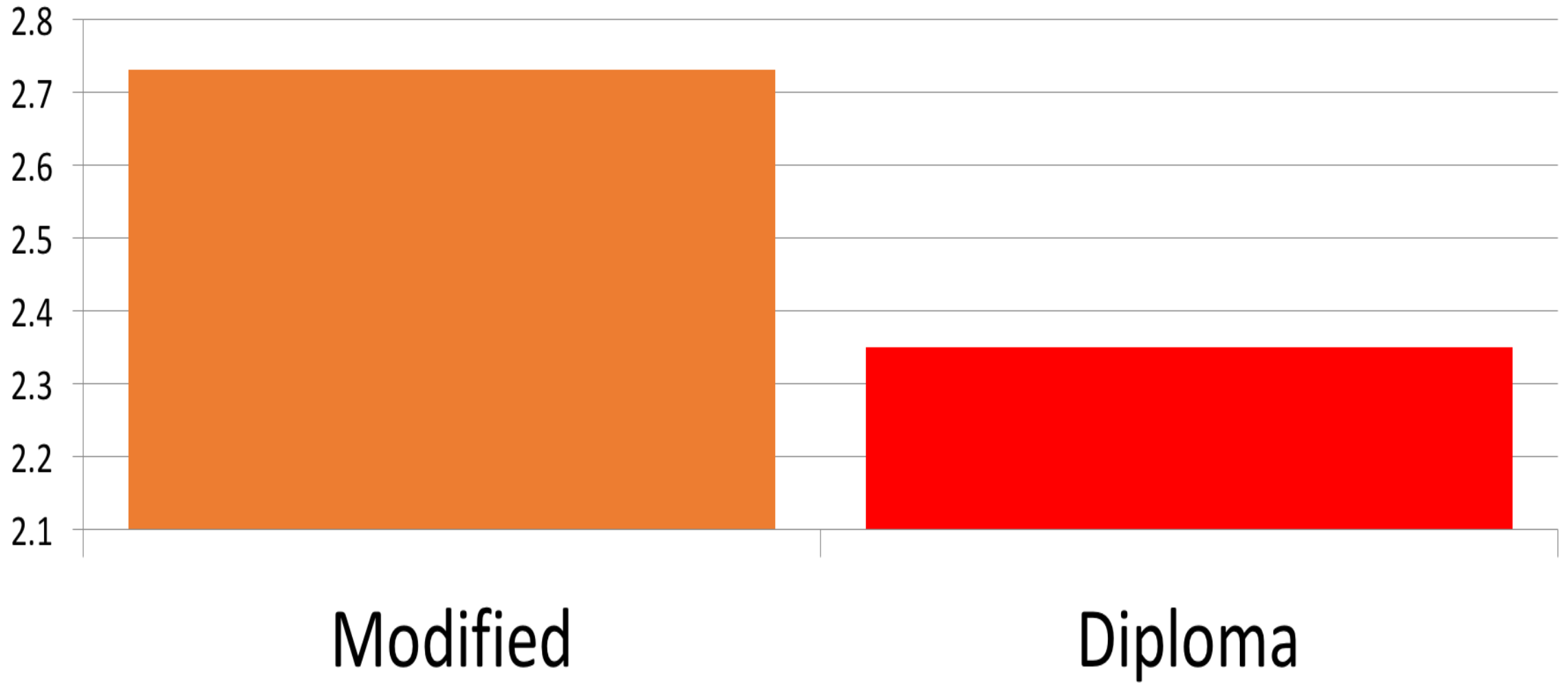


Table 3 APERS Means by Program

<b>APERS Domain</b>	<b>Diploma Program Mean(SD)(N=60)</b>	<b>Modified Diploma Program Mean(SD)(N=47)</b>
Total	3.17(.462)	3.24(.536)
Environment	4.13(.620)	4.01(.665)
Climate	3.87(.802)	3.96(.778)
Assessment	2.62(.534)	2.87(.645)
Instruction	3.04(.671)	3.15(.729)
Communication	2.72(.806)	2.65(.765)
Social	2.77(.647)	2.84(.720)
Independence	2.79(.623)	2.65(.739)
Functional Behavior	2.70(.806)	2.74(.722)
Family	3.77(.880)	4.03(.818)
Teaming	3.10(.541)	3.30(.527)
CSESA Transition*	2.36(.526)	2.72(.681)

\* $p < .001$

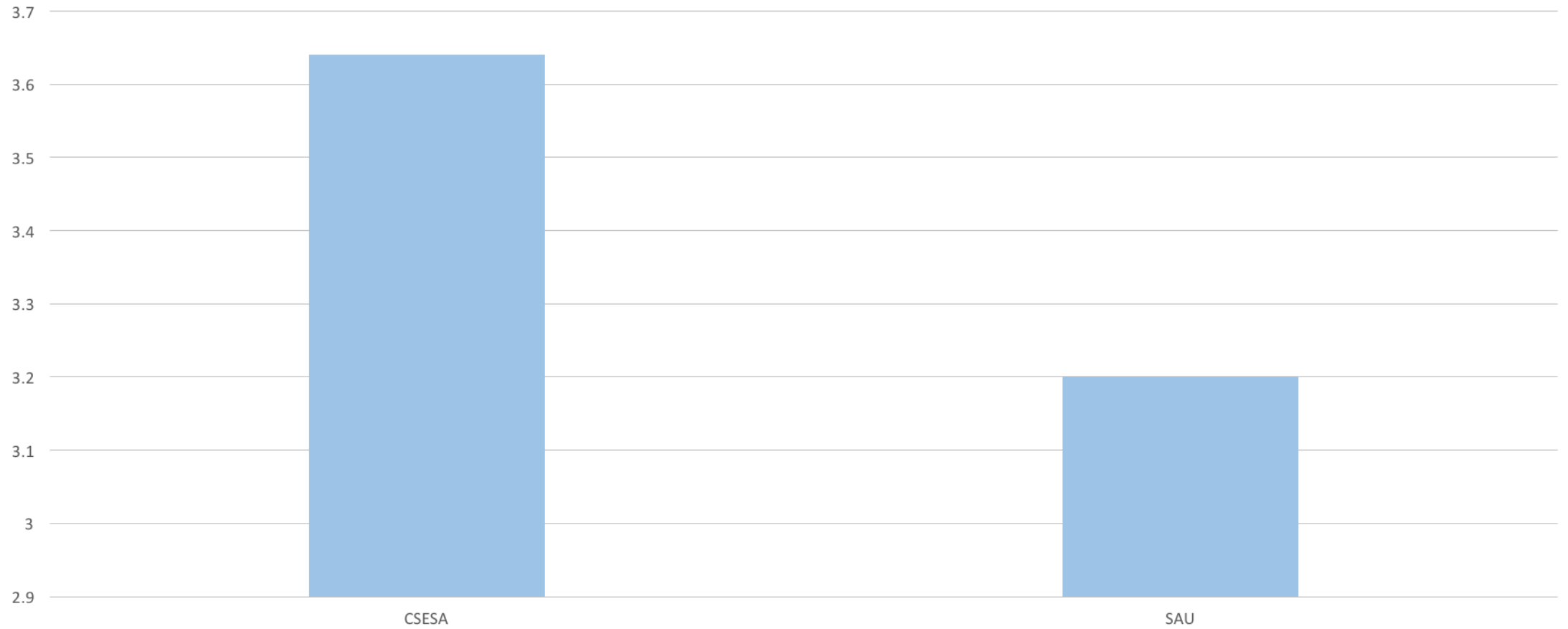
# APERS Scores Transition



$p < .001$ ,  $d = .54$

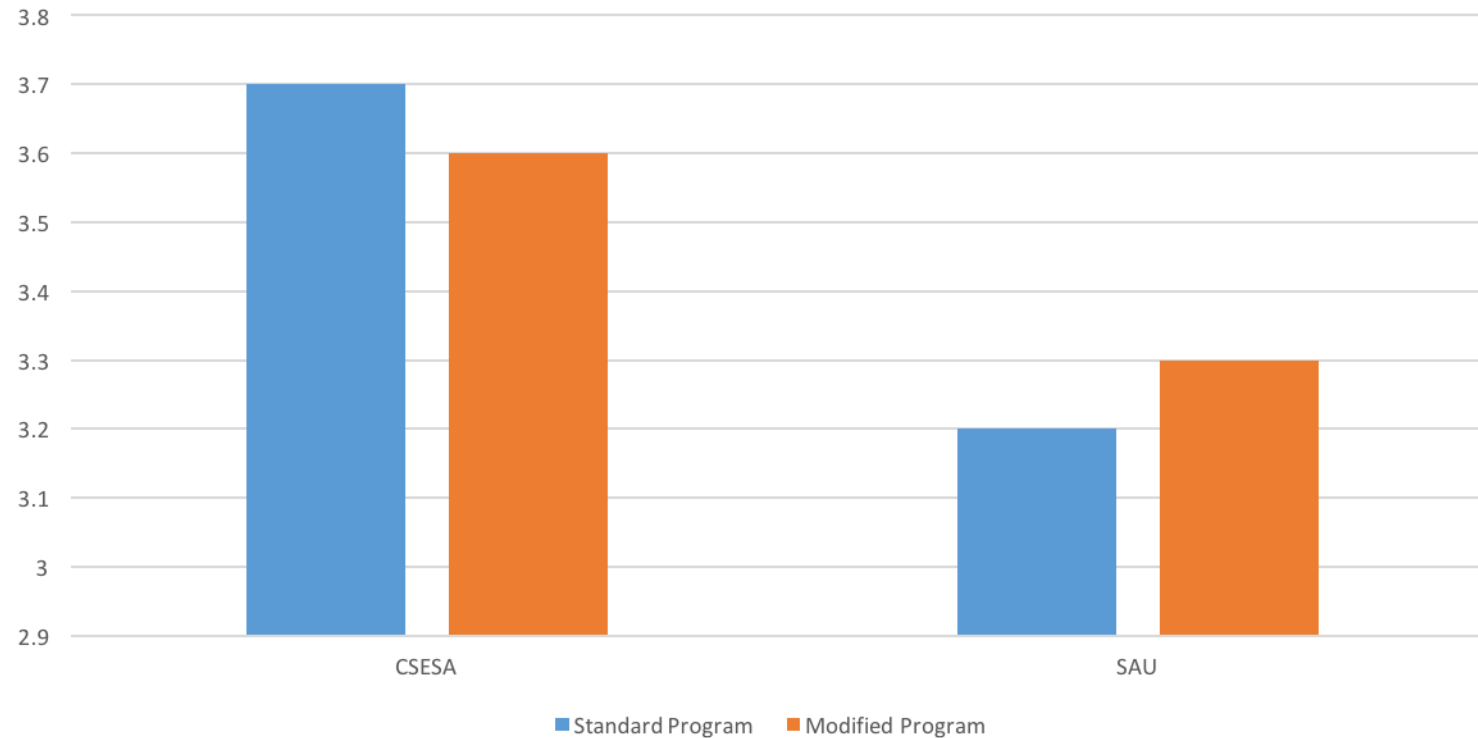


# Overall Effect for APERS?



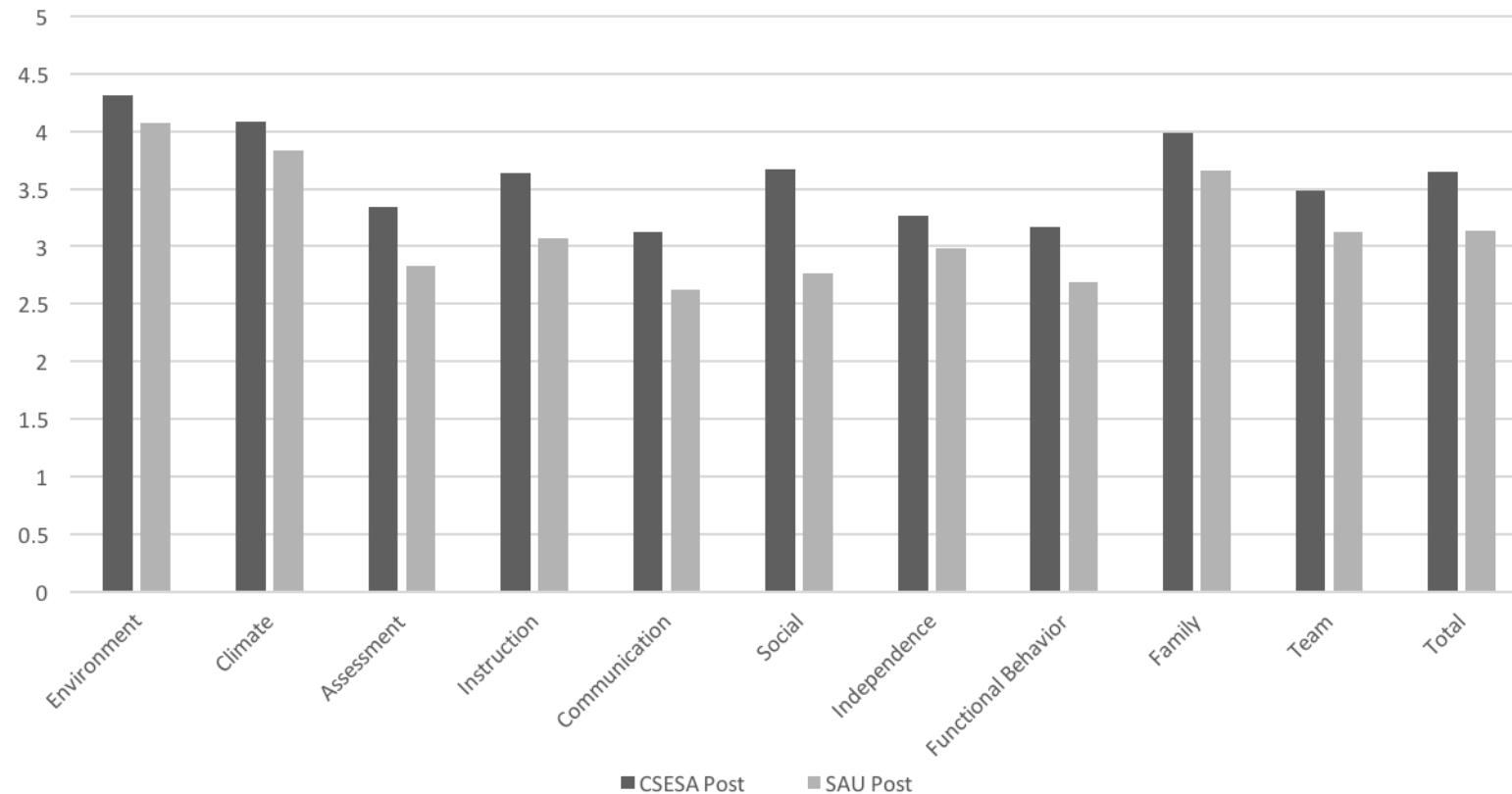
**$F(1, 52) = 16.6, p < .001, \eta^2 = .24, d = 1.12$**

# Did the CSESA Program Affect Quality?



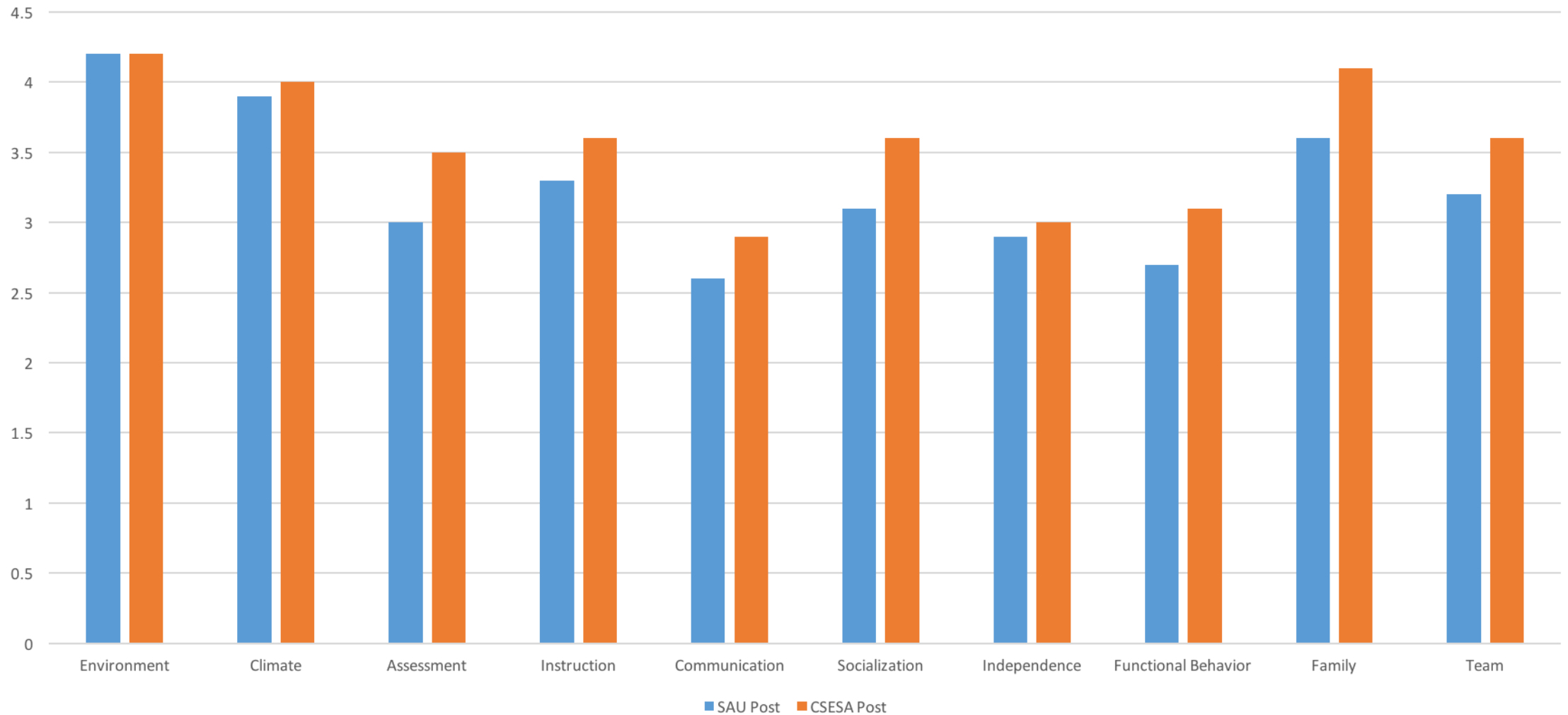
**Diploma:**  $F(1, 54) = 13.9, p < .001, \eta^2 = .205, d = 1.02,$   
**Modified:**  $F(1, 45) = 3.66, p = .063, \eta^2 = .080, d = .590,$

# Adjusted Post-test Scores for Domains

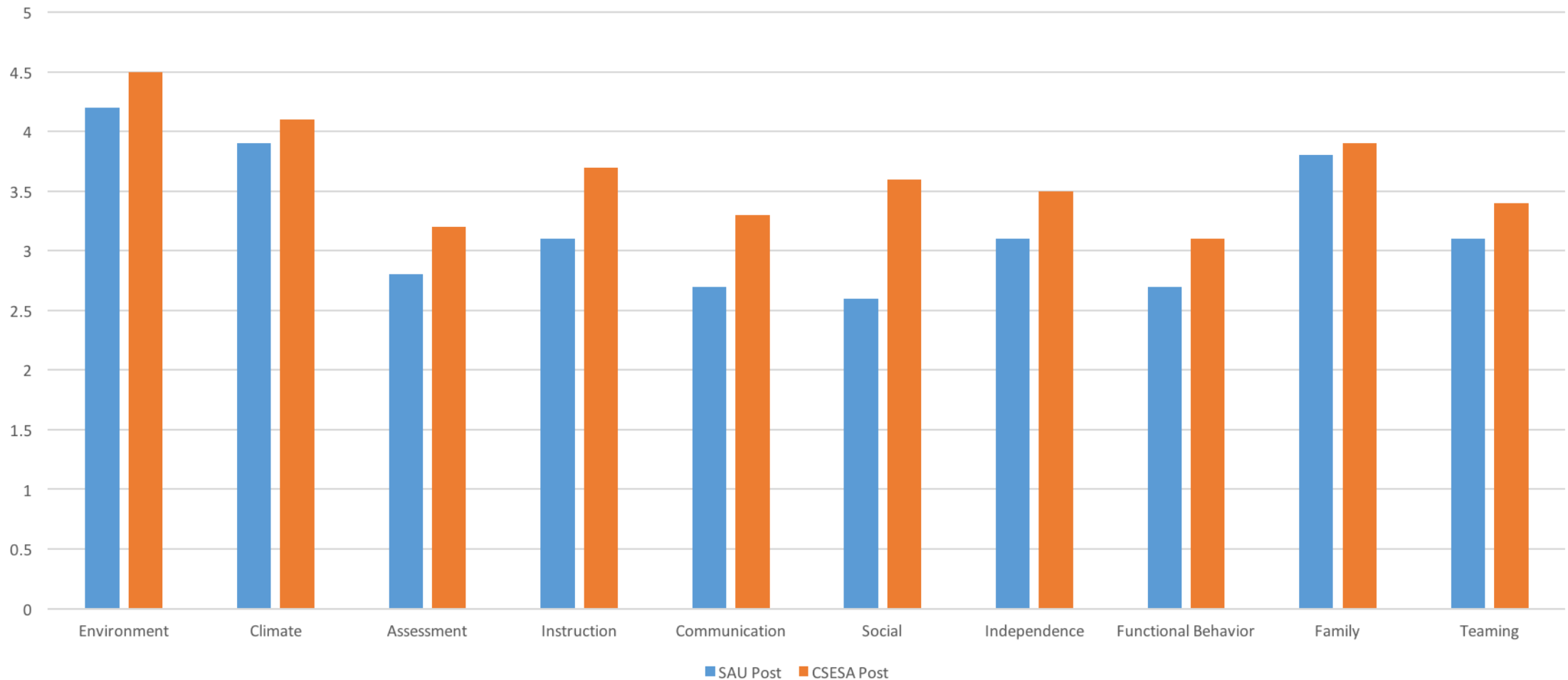


**Assessment ( $p = .003$   $d=.793$ ), Instruction ( $p < .001$   $d=.974$ ), Communication ( $p = .009$   $d=.688$ ), Social ( $p < .001$   $d=1.43$ ), Functional Behavior ( $p = .016$   $d=.683$ ), Teaming ( $p = .010$   $d=.701$ ), Academic ( $p < .002$   $d=.846$ ), Independence ( $p < .010$   $d=.686$ ).**

# Adjusted Post-test Scores for Diploma

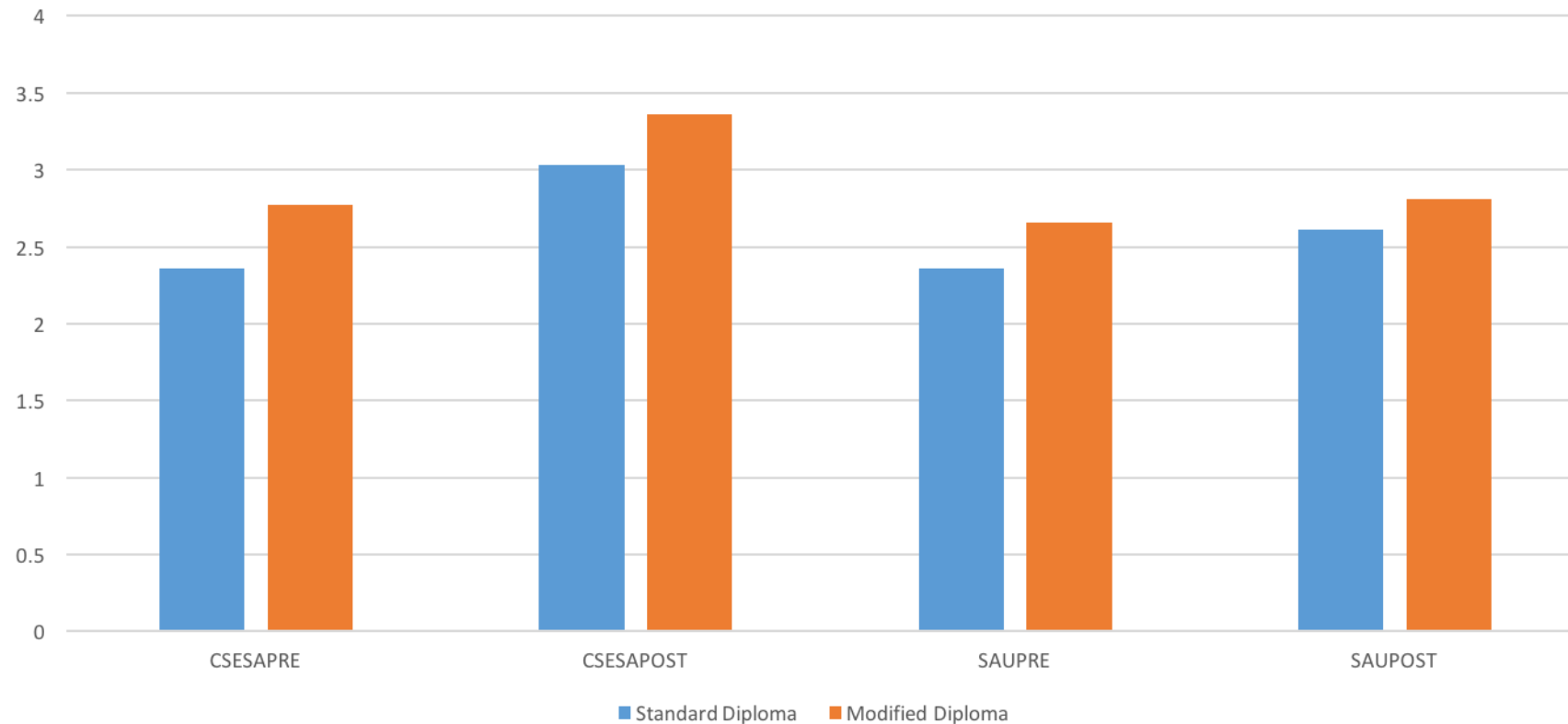


# Adjusted Post-test APERS Scores for Modified





# Adjusted Post-test Scores for Transition Composite: Diploma and Modified



Total Weighted  $F(1, 49) = 15.8, p = .021, \eta^2 = .238, d = 1.12,$

Modified:  $F(1, 45) = 5.71, p = .021, \eta^2 = .120, d = .739.$

# Complex Service Interventions (CSI)

- Complex Service Interventions (CSIs) go by many names
  - Socially Complex Service Interventions (Wolff, 2000)
  - Complex Adaptive Systems (Leykum et al., 2007)
- Leaders in implementation science have provided definitions and contrasts to clinical research programs

Studying complex service interventions  
(Mittman, 2011 at 1<sup>st</sup> GIC)

Implementation strategies and programs are *complex service interventions* when characterized by:

- Variability and heterogeneity of program (intervention) content across time and place
- Heterogeneity of program implementation across time and place
- Strong contextual influences (leadership, culture, experience/capacity, staff/budget sufficiency), variability and heterogeneity of context across time and place
- Weak main effects (other than for *robust* programs)

CSI Features (Mcgaghie, 2011; Pawson et al., 2005;)	CSESA
1. Hypothesis: If you deliver, good outcomes will follow.	+
2. Effects accrue from active input of individuals	+
3. Success is a long journey: depends on cumulative sequence of events and integrity of implementation chain	+
4. CSI is often nonlinear and can go in reverse	+
5. CSIs are embedded in multiple social systems and contexts will have differential effects on outcomes	+
6. CSIs are leaky and prone to be borrowed, delivered in mutating fashion	+
7. CSIs feedback on themselves; they may change the conditions that made them work in the first place	+

# Assessing Implementation: Cordray Model

## Assessing Implementation of Education Interventions

- \*\*Intervention as designed
- \*\*Intervention as implemented
- \*\*Complex interventions require multilevel assessments

Cordray (2007)



# Conceptual Model for Implementation Measurement

As part of the model development, the CSESA team developed a multi-component fidelity tool including:

- Individual fidelity measures per component designed to:
  - Measure adherence, dosage, and quality of delivery for each component
  - Differentiate between CSESA and non-CSESA interventions
- Process fidelity measure designed to:
  - Capture the larger CSESA process including professional development, assessment, planning, implementation, and outcomes

# Implementation Index Instructions and Forms for CSESA Sites: Evaluation Questions

- In the CSESA Model we need to collect implementation data at multiple levels:
- The school level-
  - Is the CSESA Process being implemented at the school?
  - Is the school receiving the model? (data on the CSESA process)
- The staff level-
  - Is the staff implementing the CSESA interventions as designed? (fidelity data)
  - Is the staff following the CSESA Process? (data on CSESA process)
- The student level-
  - Is the CSESA Process being implemented at the student level? (data on the CSESA process)
  - Is the student receiving the interventions as designed? (fidelity and dosage data)



Level and Questions	Data Source	Process
<b>School</b>		
Is the CSESA process being implemented at the school?	1.Coaching Log 2. Coaching Fidelity	1.Hours per week and activity 2.Fidelity Rating
Is the school receiving the model?	1.Professional Development (PD) Training Log	1.Number of Hours of PD 2.PD Evaluation by participants
<b>Staff</b>		
Is the staff implementing the CSESA interventions as designed? (fidelity data)	1.Fidelity checklists for each component.	1.Three fidelity observations at each school.
Is the staff following the CSESA Process?	1.School Planning Form 2.APERS Teaming Subtest	1.Cumulative 2. APERS Score
<b>Students</b>		
Is the CSESA Process being implemented at the student level?	1. Secondary School Success Checklist 2. Student intervention matrix	1.555C used to identify needs. 2. Documentation across school of intervention for all students
Is the student receiving the interventions as designed?	1.Student planning menu 2.Fidelity measures	1.Individual student specification of interventions 2. Mean fidelity rating for intervention student received.



Level and Questions	Data Source	Process
School		
Is the CSESA process being implemented at the school?	1.Coaching Log 2. Coaching Fidelity	1.Hours per week and activity 2.Fidelity Rating
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# Analysis of Implementation: A Portfolio Or a Number?

Level and Questions	Data Source	Perfect Score	Actual Score	Percentage
<b>School</b>				
Is the CSESA process being implemented at the school?	1.Coaching Log 2. Coaching Fidelity	1. Mean of 6 hours per school 2. Mean of 3.0	1. Mean = 4.9 hours 2. Mean = 2.6	1. 82% 2. 87%
Is the school receiving the model?	1.Professional Development (PD) Training Log	1. Mean of 60 hours of professional development 2. Mean rating 4.0	1. Mean = 49 hours 2. Mean = 3.67	1. 81% 2. 92%
<b>Staff</b>				
Is the staff implementing the CSESA interventions as designed? (fidelity data)	1.Fidelity checklists for each component.	1. Mean rating of 3.0 across meas.	Mean = 2.5	1. 83%
Is the staff following the CSESA Process?	1.School Planning Form 2.APERS Teaming Subtest	1. School employed 100% of items 2. Mean APERS Score of 5.0	1. Mean = 90% 2. Mean APERS = 4.2	1. 90% 2. 84%
<b>Students</b>				
Is the CSESA Process being implemented at the student level?	1. Secondary School Success Checklist 2. Student intervention matrix	1. 100% of assessments conducted 2. 100% of student received all interventions	1. Mean = 98% 2. Mean = 66%	1. 98% 2. 66%
Is the student receiving the interventions as designed?	1.Student planning menu 2.Fidelity measures	1. Individual interventions specified for 100% of students 2. Mean fidelity rating of 3.0 of interventions student received	1. Mean = 89% 2. Mean = 2.6	1. 89% 2. 87%

Mean =85.3% (Hypothetical)