



National Institute for Direct Instruction

NIFDI Data Base of Research Articles Methodology Used in Indexing

NIFDI staff review each of the studies listed in the database, summarize the content and index the material. This document summarizes the guidelines used in indexing the content of each study. Note that not all categories are appropriate for use with all of the works in the data base. All entries are categorized for publication type, and the other categorizations are used with studies of program effectiveness. Bolded items are the terms used in the indexing system

Publication Type

- **DI Overview and Background:** Textbooks about Direct Instruction, general books regarding the program, the history of its development, etc.
- **Program Effectiveness:** Documentation of DI's effectiveness.
- **DI Theory:** The theoretical and experimental work that provided the foundation for the development of the programs.
- **Implementation Support** – Instructions for teachers, studies of implementation fidelity, school reform, administrative issues, etc.
- **DI Curricula** – Direct Instruction programs.

Design

- **Randomized Experiment:** Pretest and posttest measures are collected, a control group is included, and participants are randomly assigned to treatment and control groups.
- **Matched Comparison (Demographics):** Pretest and posttest measures are collected, a control group is included, and participants are divided into treatment and control groups in a manner that demographic variables (gender, age, grade, ethnicity, disability, socioeconomic status) are similar for both groups.
- **Matched Comparison (Pretest):** Pretest and posttest measures are collected, a control group is included, and pretest scores are used to divide participants into groups that are similar in ability.
- **Non-matched Comparison:** Pretest and posttest measures are collected, a control group is included, but groups are not manipulated to account for demographic or pretest differences.
- **One Group Pretest-Posttest:** Pretest and Posttest measures are collected, but there is no control group.
- **Static Group Comparison:** Posttest measures only are collected and a control group is included.

- **Single Subject:** Any study that allows for the participant to serve as their own control; no control group is utilized.
- **Meta-analysis:** A method that combines the results of several studies that address comparable research questions
- **Case Study:** Posttest measures only are collected; no control group is utilized.
- **Longitudinal:** Measures are collected multiple times over a span of more than 2 years

Students Included

Characteristics of students included in studies are classified into:

- Grade (**Kindergarten Students, First Grade Students**, etc.)
- Age (**Elementary Students, Adolescents**, etc.)
- Disability (**Students w/ Disabilities, Students w/Autism**, etc.)
- Placement (**Special Education, General Education**)
- **Remedial** (Students who are below grade level)
- **At-risk** (Low SES, At-risk for academic failure)
- Specific Status (**Incarcerated Students, English Language Learners**, etc.)
- Ethnicity
 - **Hispanic**
 - **African American**
 - **Asian**
 - **Multiracial**
 - **Alaskan/Native American**
 - **Pacific Islander**

Location

Location refers to the geographical region of the study. Regions are classified as follows, using the definitions of the Bureau of the U.S. Census:

- **Northeast:**
 - **New England:** Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut
 - **Middle Atlantic:** New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey
- **Midwest:**
 - **East North Central:** Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio
 - **West North Central:** North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri
- **South:**
 - **South Atlantic:** Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida
 - **East South Central:** Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama
 - **West South Central:** Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana

- **West:**
 - **Mountain:** Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico
 - **Pacific:** Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii

Setting

Setting refers to the type of school or other setting in which the study takes place:

- **Elementary School, Middle School, High School, Preschool**
- **Charter School, Private School, Alternative School, Juvenile Corrections Facility**

Fidelity Measured

If a study indicates that fidelity data were collected, this identifier is marked "**Yes.**" If there is no indication of fidelity monitoring, then "**No**" is marked.

Other Tags

Program/Intervention: The curricula, programs, instruction methods or interventions included in the study are indicated (**Reading Mastery, Houghton-Mifflin, etc.**) Both experimental and comparison programs are listed. Also, the subject of interest (**reading, math, etc.**) is indicated.

Dependent Measures: Measures used to determine efficacy are tagged (**Woodcock Johnson Achievement Test, DIBELS, etc.**)