

# The pilot project *pro kind*

WIR BEGLEITEN JUNGE FAMILIEN

## Preliminary results from early intervention



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# „Pro Kind“ – Brief description

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- „Pro Kind“ is a pilot project for high-risk primiparous women and their families.
  - It closely models the Nurse-Family Partnership Program (Olds, 2004) with necessary adjustments to the German social state.
    - In the U.S., nurses conduct the home visits, in Germany midwives and social pedagogues act as family attendants.
    - Randomized control group design in three federal states: Lower Saxony, Bremen/Bremerhaven, Saxony
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# Target Group Criteria

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- Primiparous pregnant women
  - Registration from the 12<sup>th</sup> until the 28<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy
  - Financial problem position
    - Unemployment compensation
    - Over-indebtedness
  - At least one personal/social risk factor
    - teenage pregnancy
    - no graduation
    - social isolation
    - health problems (physic or psychic)
  - Receptive and expressive German language competence
  - Assured right of residence
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**Projectphase I:**  
Prenatal Intervention

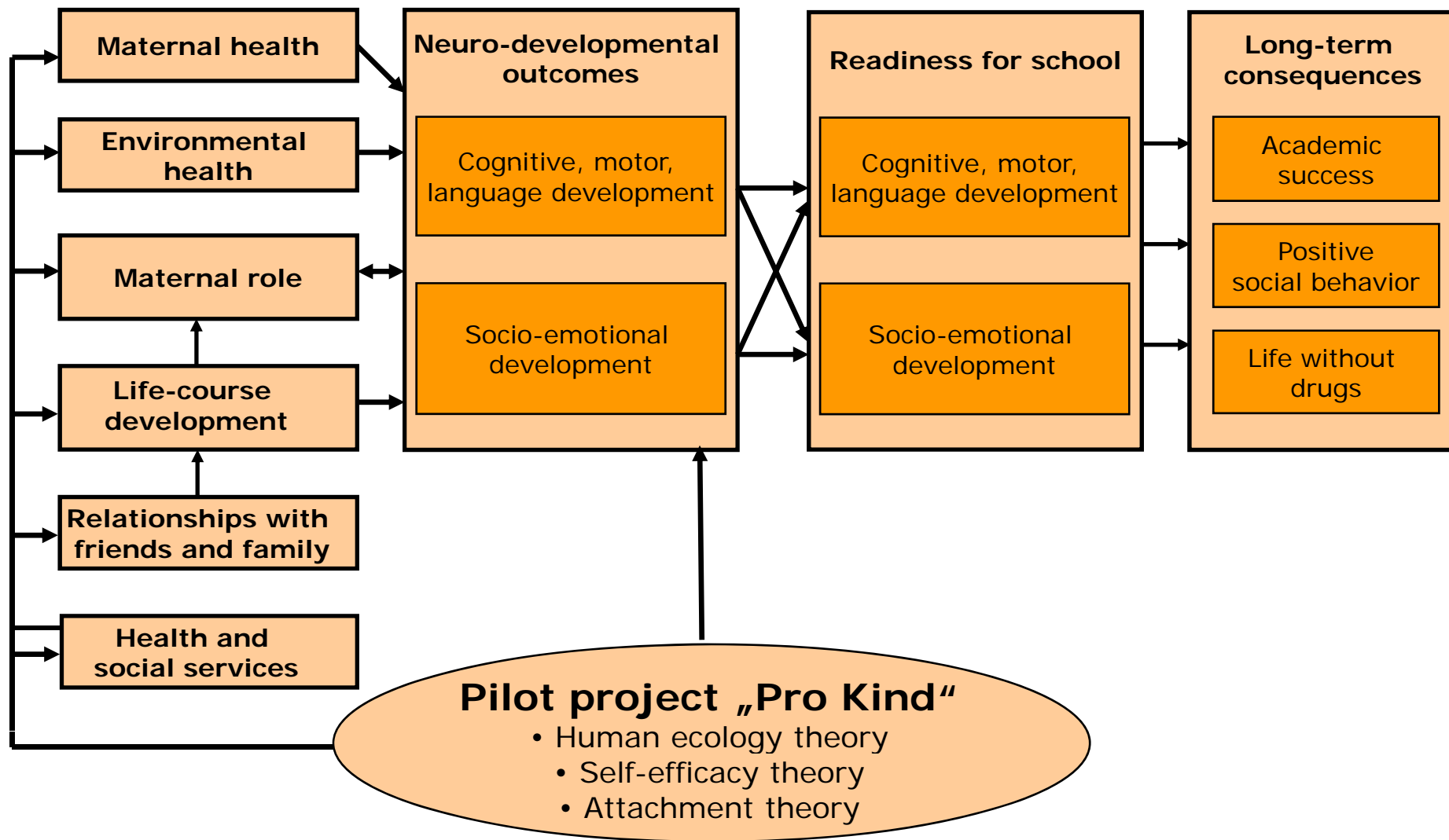
**Projectphase II:**  
Early Childhood Intervention

**Mother/Father**

**Infant/  
Toddler**

**Preschooler**

**Adolescent**



# Objectives of „Pro Kind“

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- Improvement of maternal health during pregnancy and birth of a healthy child.
  - Improvement of **parental competence** and amelioration of life-course development.
  - Improvement of child health and development of **cognitive** and non-cognitive skills.
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# Research design and methods

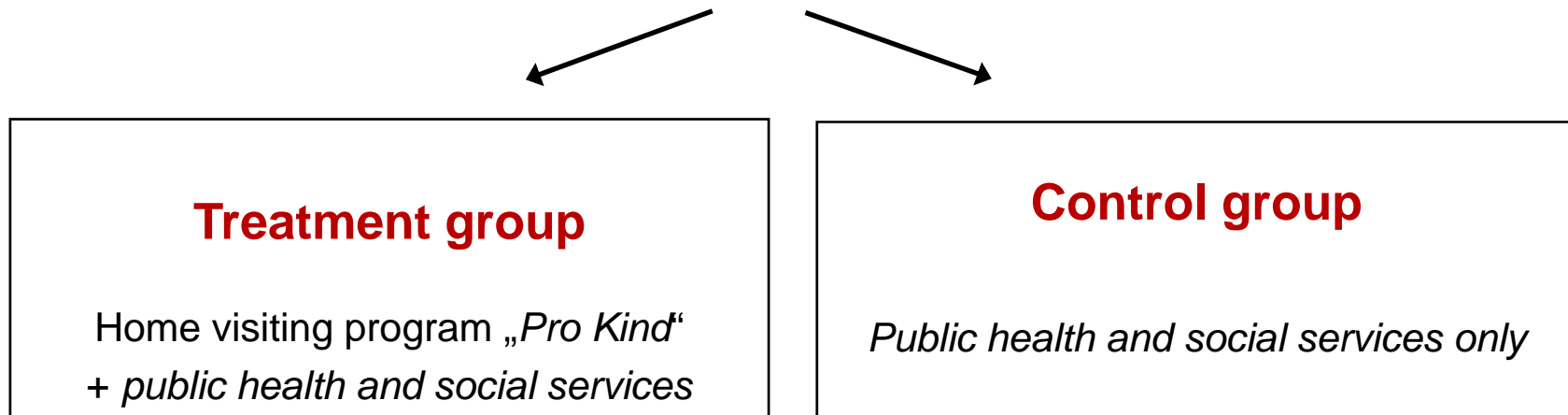
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# Randomized Control Group Design

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- Evaluation of program effectiveness and efficiency on
  - mothers/fathers
  - children

Randomization of participants



# Evaluation: Measurement categories

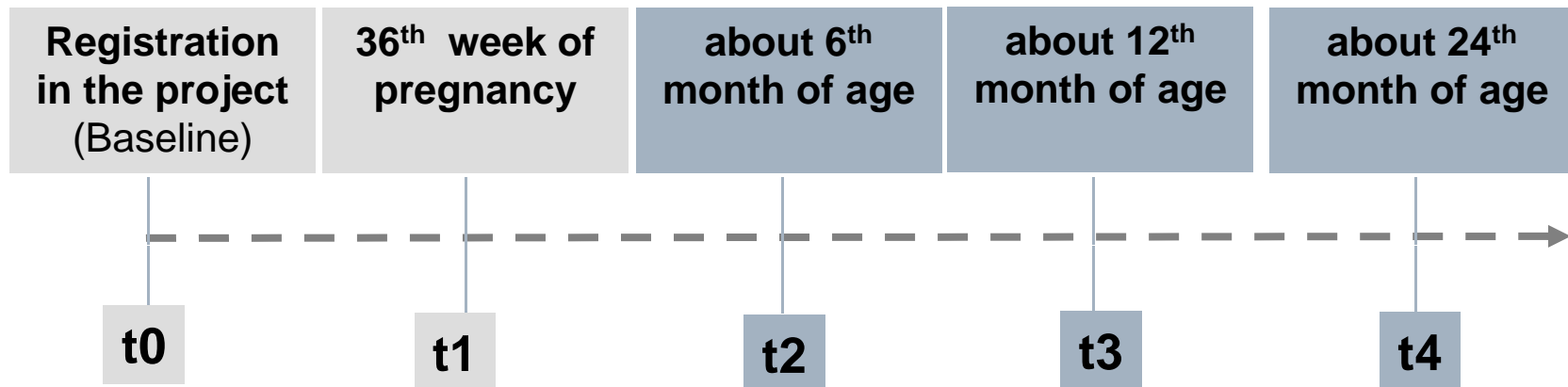
- Demographics
- Maternal health status and habits during and after pregnancy
- Stress and Coping
- Parental competency
- Life-course development
- Formal and informal networks
- Domestic violence
- Health status
- Cognitive, motor, language and socio-emotional development

- Attachment and attachment behavior

Repeated assessment times at the project run as well as scheduled follow-up-assessments

# Assessment times

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# Cost-Benefit-Analysis

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- **Aim of research**

Investigation of societal and personal program benefits, both nonmonetary and monetary.

- **Measurement Categories:**

- Human capital investments
  - Public revenues
  - Welfare dependency
  - Labor market participation
  - Health costs
  - Institutional childcare utilization
  - Child-welfare interventions
  - ...
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# Cost-Benefit-Analysis

## Methods

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- Usage of administrative data
    - Health insurance data
    - Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians
    - Federal Justice Register
    - Public Youth Service
  - Telephone Interviews
    - Questionnaires to assess the measurement categories
    - Questionnaire in the first year of child's life from the *GSOEP (Mother-Child: Age 0-1)*
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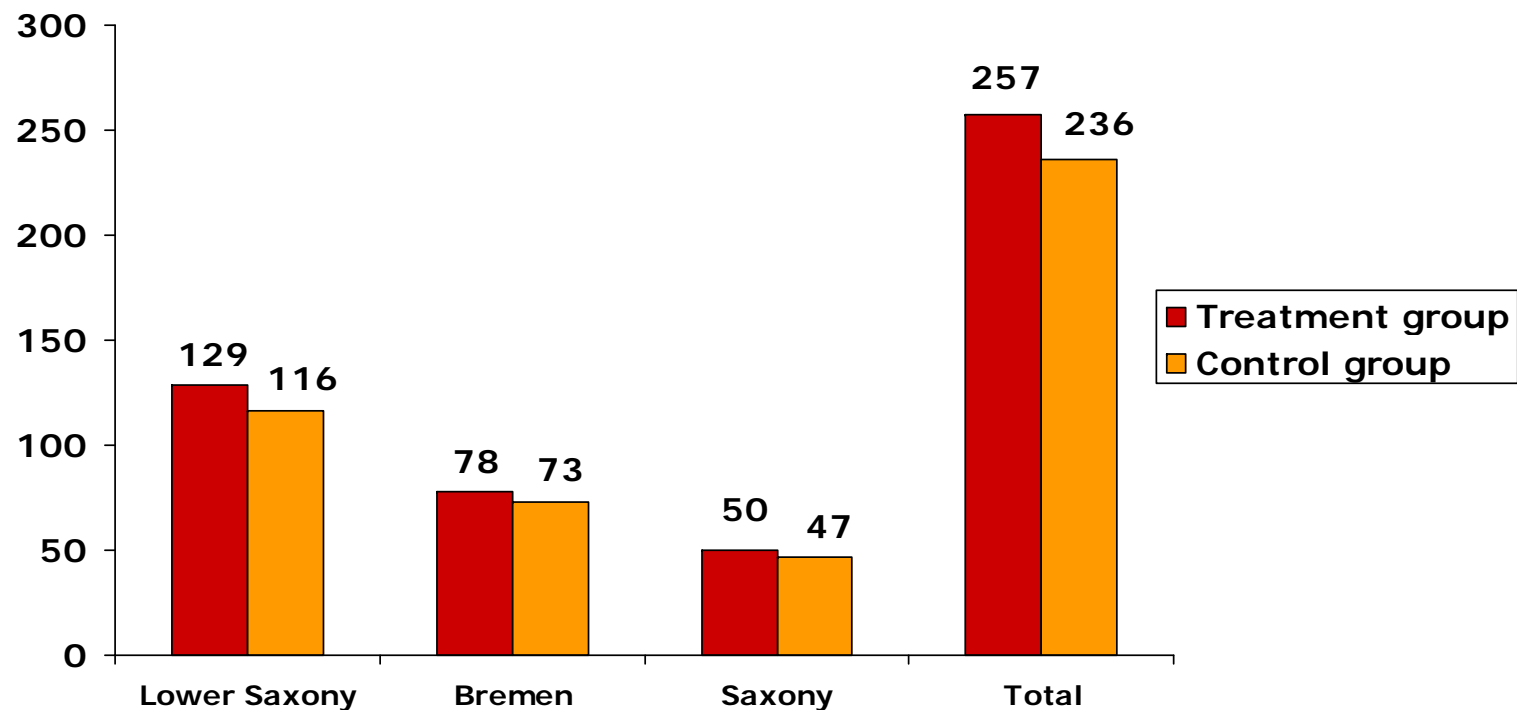
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# State of the Pilot Project & Sample description

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# State of participant acquisition

(December 2008)



Start of the project: 11/2006

04/2007

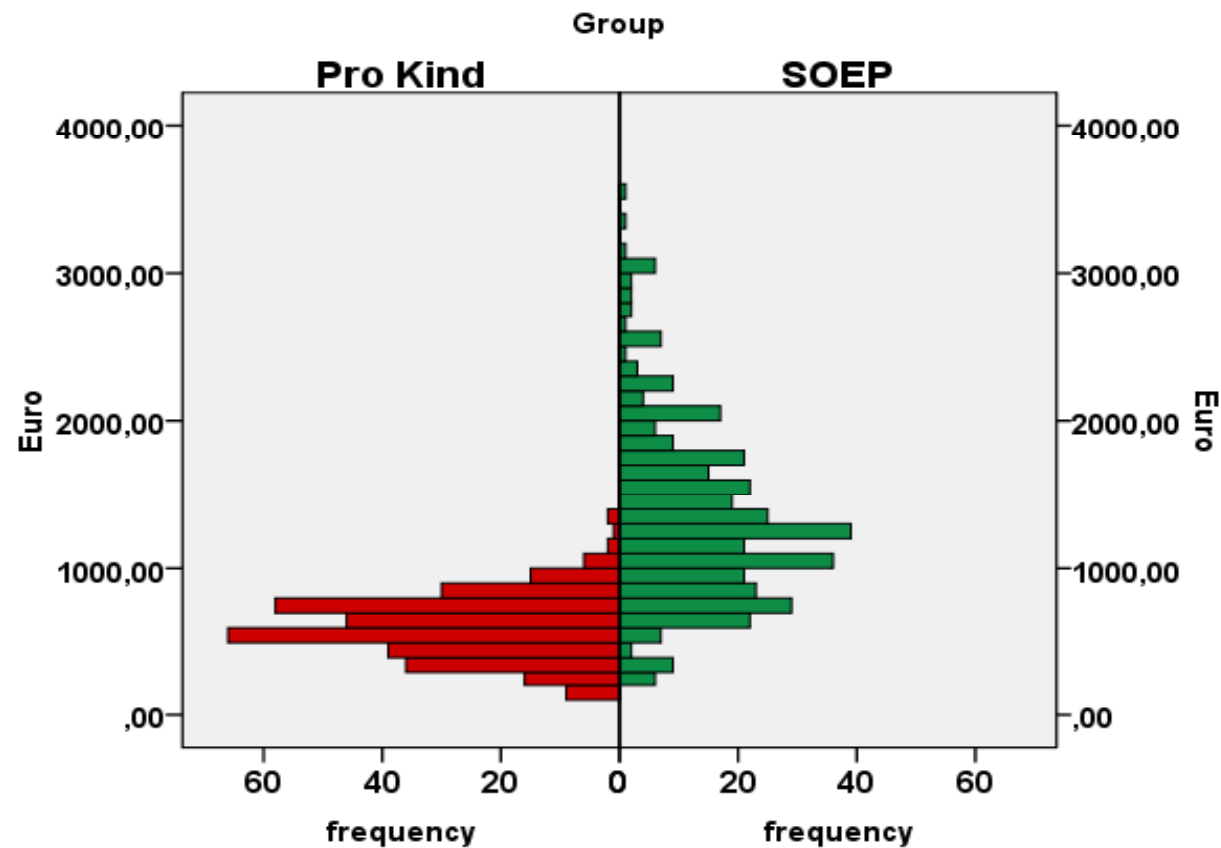
07/2007

Source: *t0-data base n = 493 women*

# Financial situation: Per-capita income

## Compared to GSOEP primiparous women

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GSOEP n: 389  
Ø: 1314€

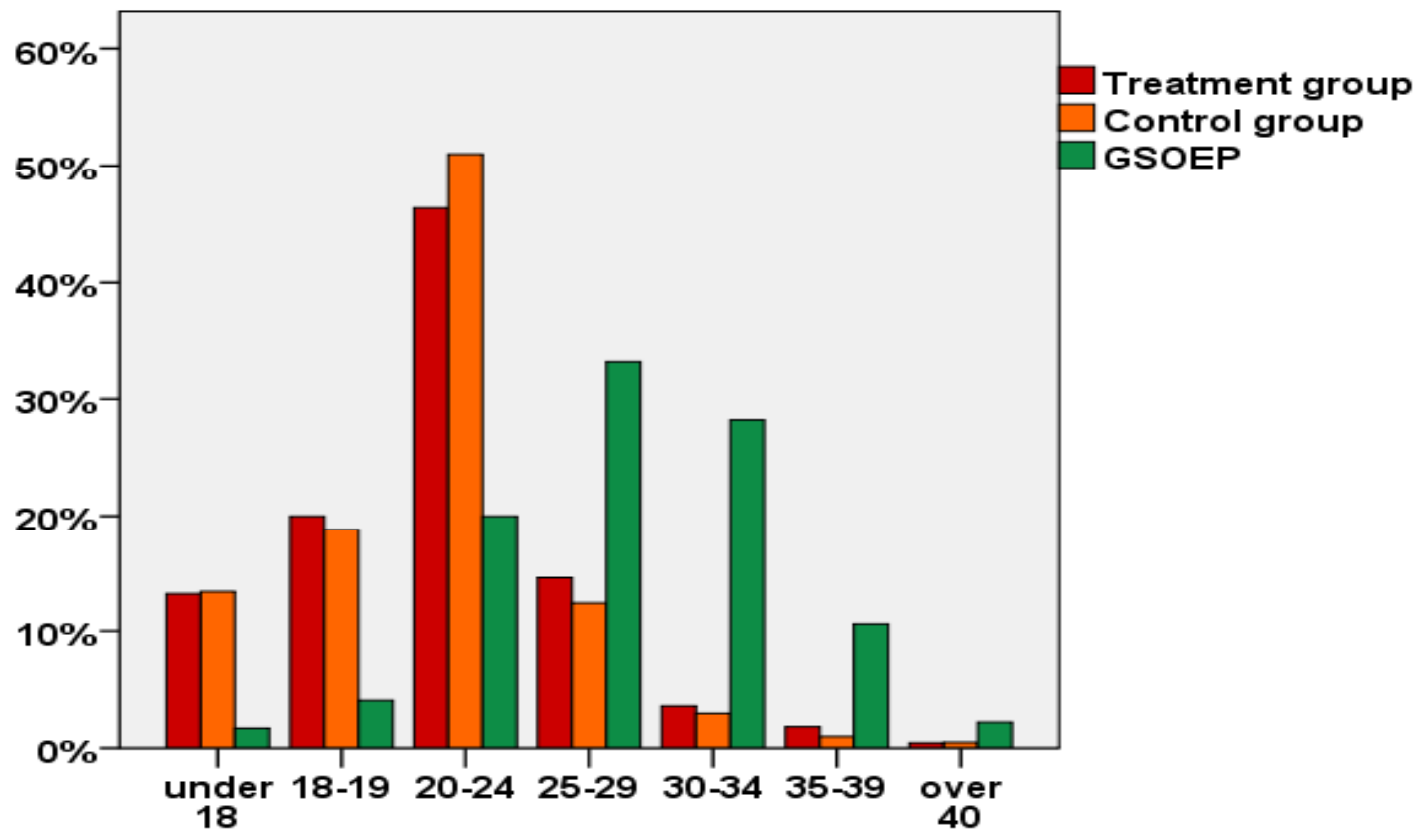
Pro Kind n: 326  
Ø: 597€

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# Personal risk factor: Teenage pregnancy

## Compared to GSOEP primiparous women

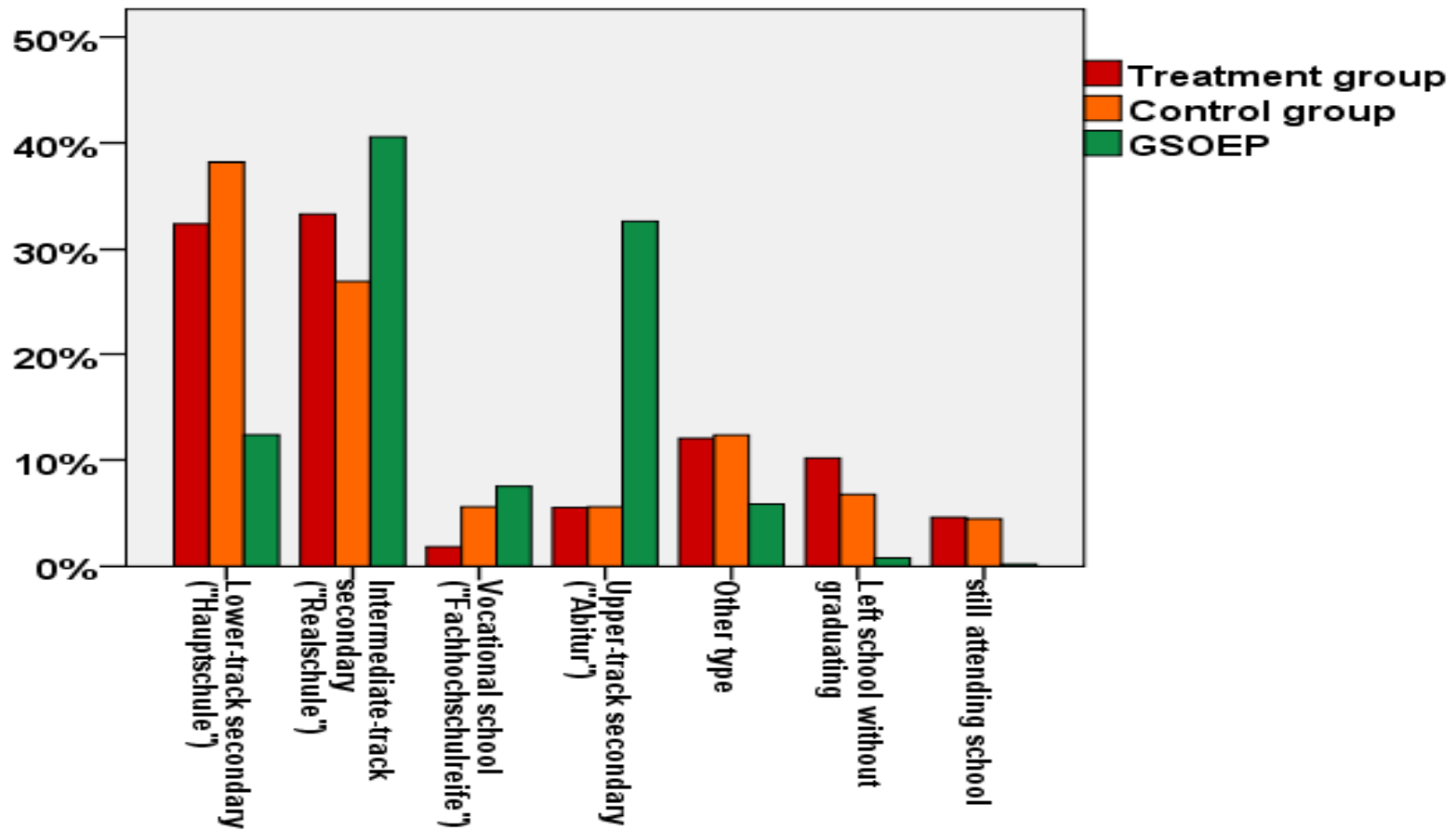
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# Personal risk factor: School graduation

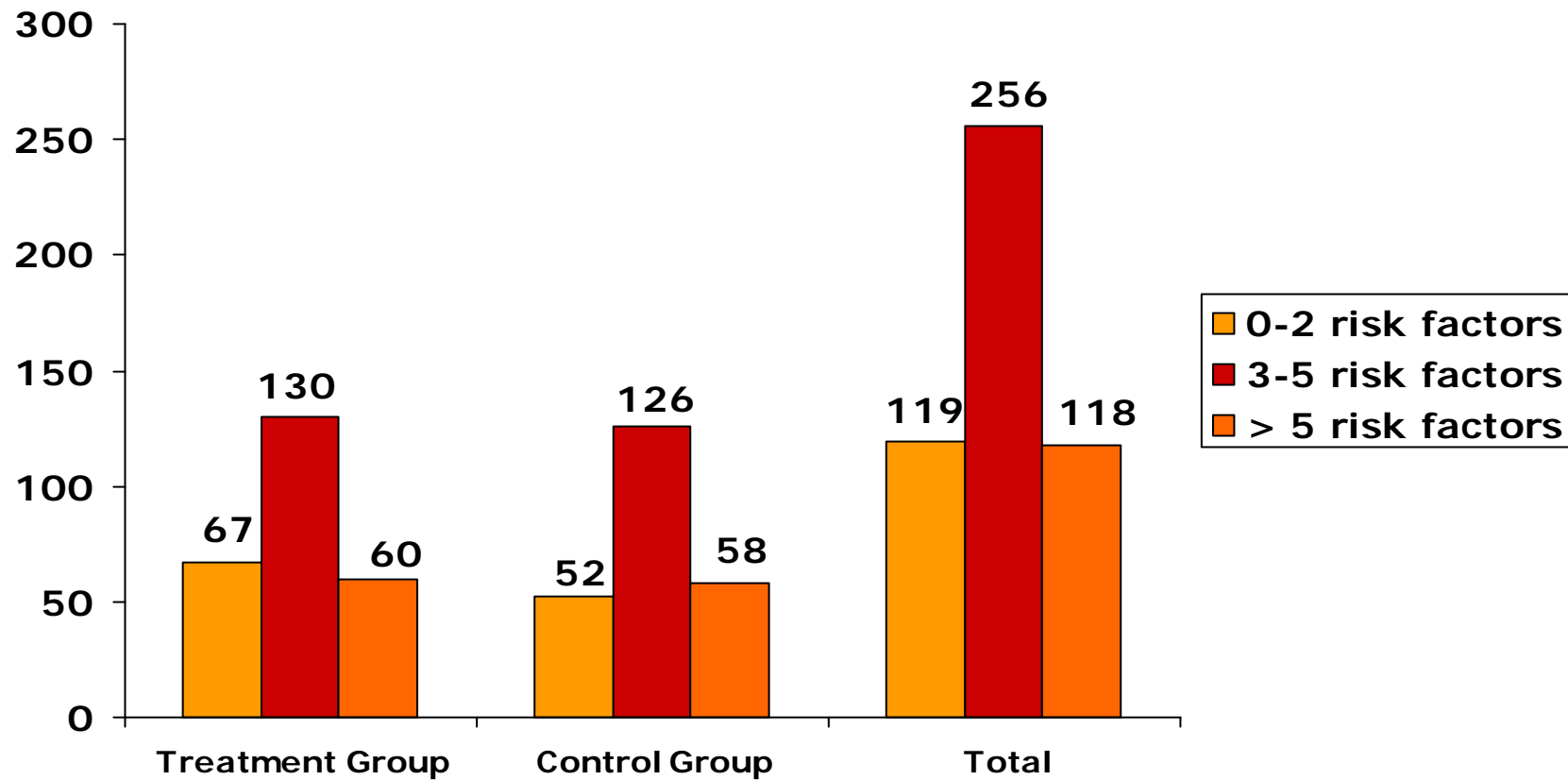
## Compared to GSOEP primiparous women

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# Participants risk status (t0-Baseline)

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Source: t0-data base n = 493 women

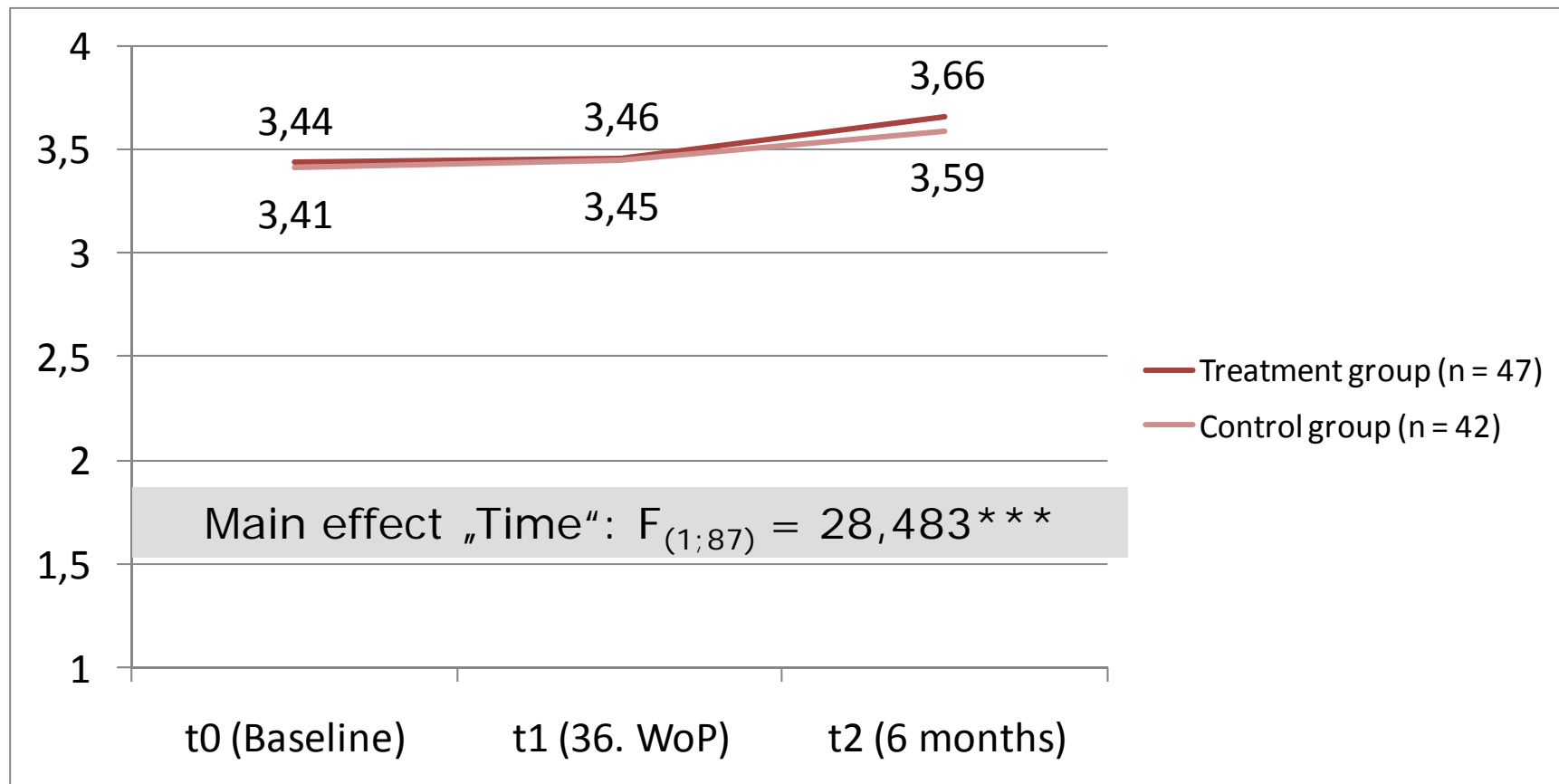
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# Preliminary Results

- Pro Kind participants
  - Infants of Pro Kind participants
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# Parental Self-efficacy

(Pre-/Postnatal Parental Expectations Survey, Reece 1996)

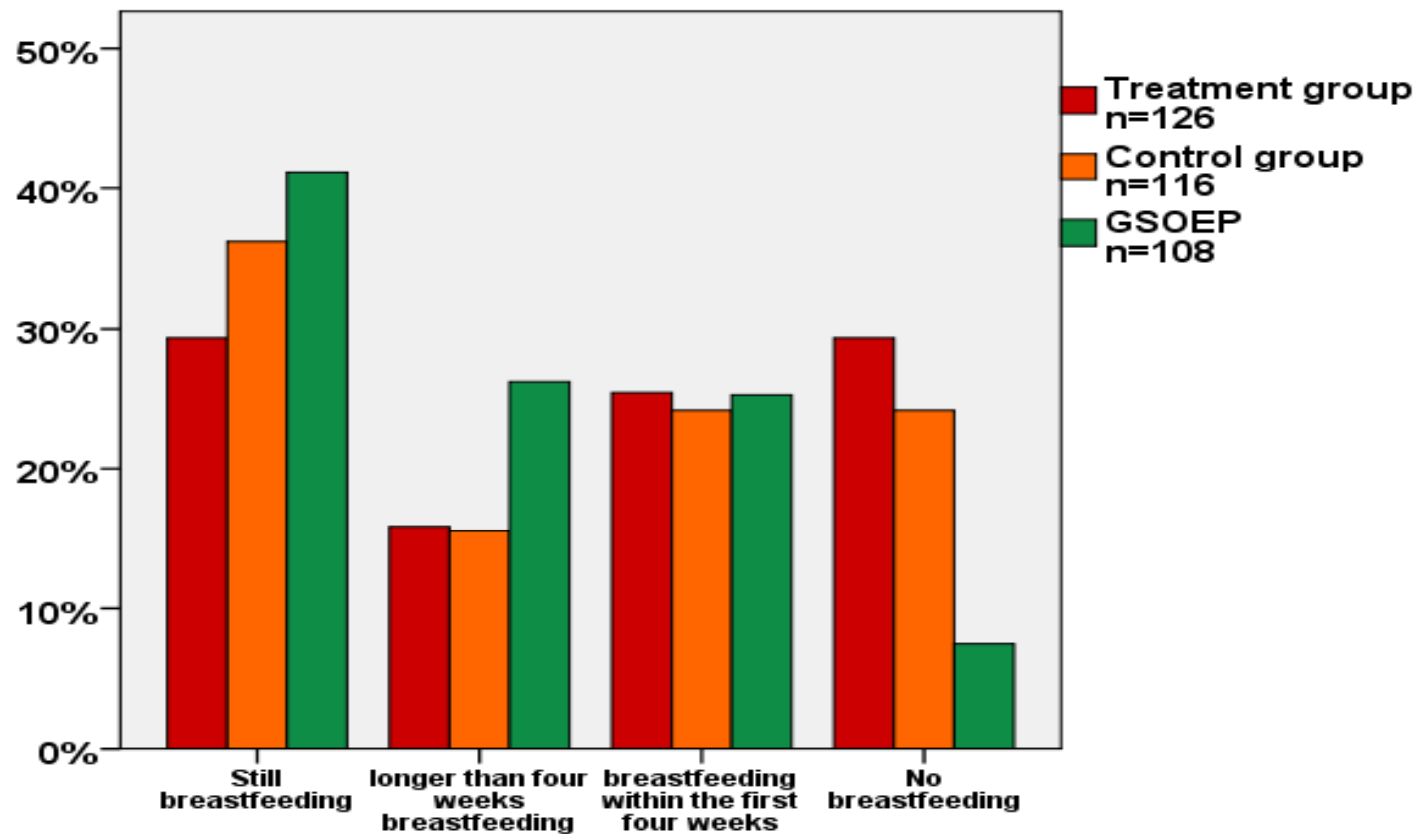


Source: t0-t1-t2-data base n = 89 women

# Parental care behavior: breastfeeding

## Compared to GSOEP first-time mothers

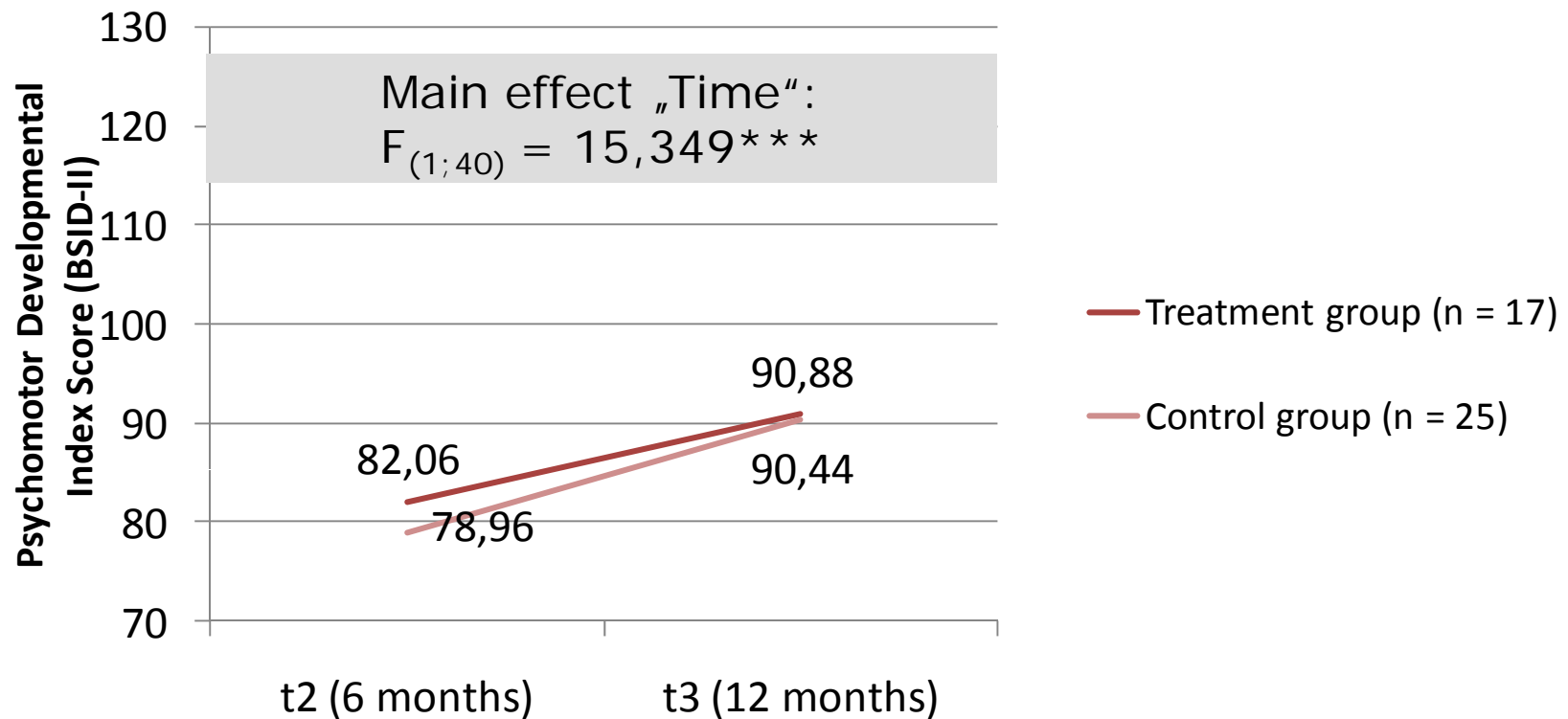
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# Bayley Scales of Infant Development-II

Psychomotor Developmental Index (Reuner et al., 2007)

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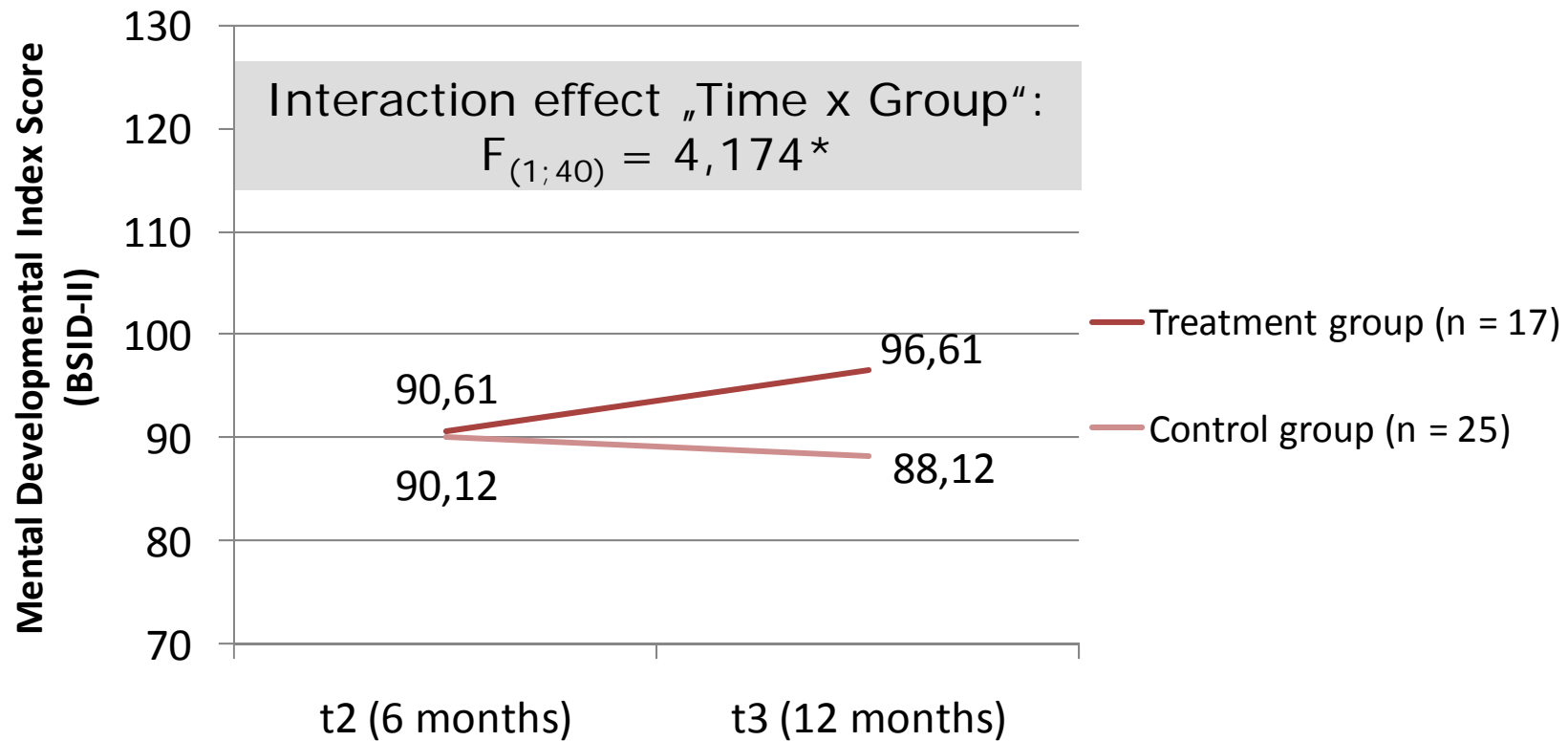
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Source: t2-t3-data base n = 42 infants

# Bayley Scales of Infant Development-II

## Mental Developmental Index

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*Source: t2-t3-data base n = 42 infants*

# Summary and future prospects

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- **Preliminary results:** Program effects on participants
    - Significant gains in parental self-efficacy in **both** groups.
    - Comparable results for maternal health habits during pregnancy and educational attitudes.
  - **Preliminary results:** Program effects on infants
    - Infants of **both** groups show a catch-up growth in their psychomotor development.
    - **But:** Significant more positive mental development in treatment group infants than in control group infants.
  - **Examination**, whether hitherto missing program effects on participants can be ascribed to...
    - ... the fact of reaching not only high-risk women?
    - ... length and intensity of home visitation?
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Thank you  
for your attention!!

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