

Sociolinguistic Research on Alveolar vs velar realizations of /n/ vs. /ŋ/, TH-Stopping

And Non-Rhoticity

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Introduction

- Bengt Loman Tapes is a eleven sample study apart of the Urban Language Study which analyzed the intonation and stress patterns in the Winston Place dialect
- This study analyzes the frequency of three phonological variables from the participants in the Loman tapes:
 - the alveolar vs. velar realizations of /n/ vs. /ŋ/
 - TH-stopping
 - Non-rhoticity

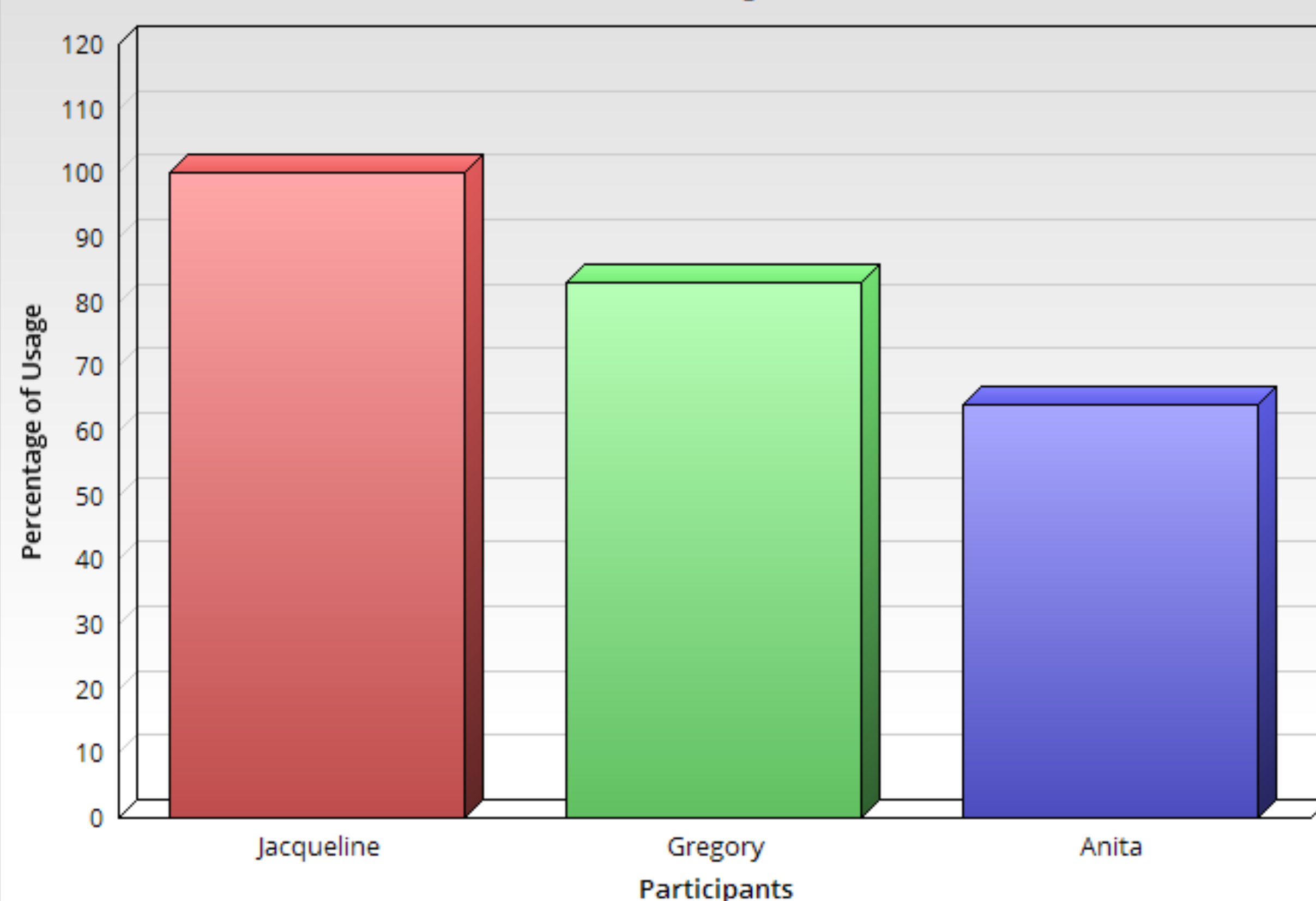
Participants

Speech Event C - A conversation between a participant and staff member

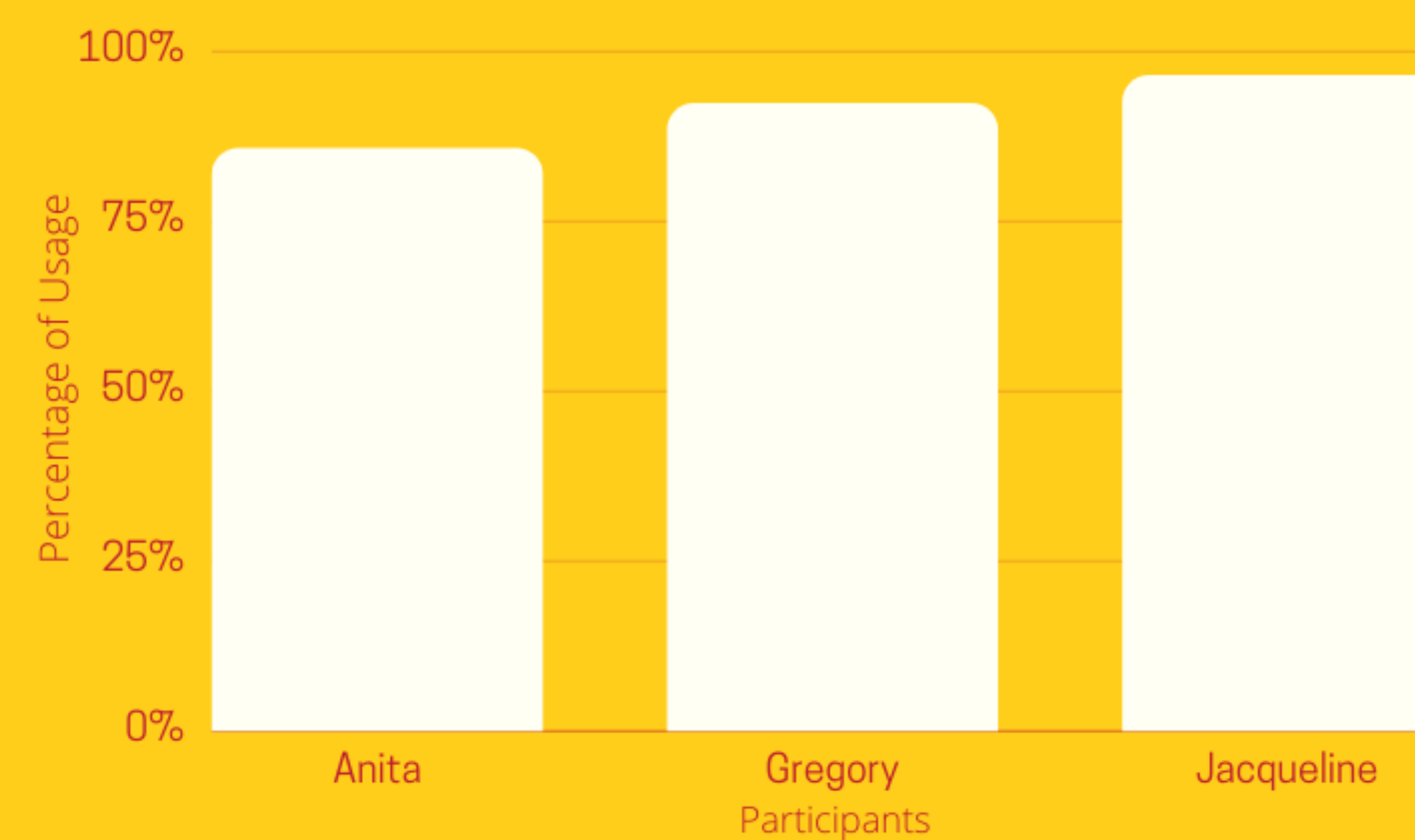
- Every child is born in Washington D.C. and lived in or near the Winston Place
- Anita Porter (AP) - 10 years old
- Gregory Jones (GJ) - 10 years old
- Jacqueline Drew (JD) - 11 year old
- Margy Gurney (MG) - ULS Staff member

Data

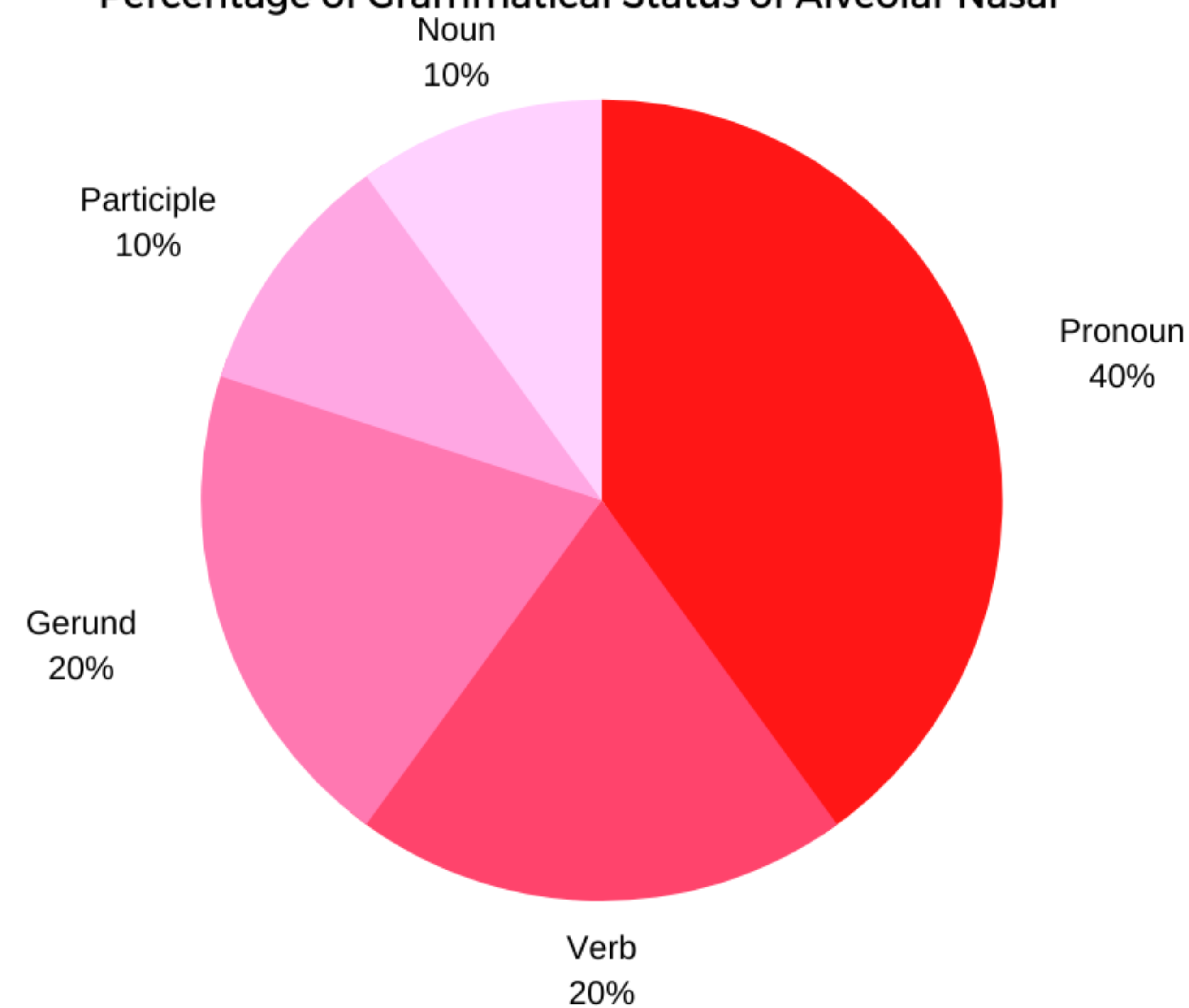
Frequency of Non-Rhoticity
In Descending Order



FREQUENCY OF TH-STOPPING

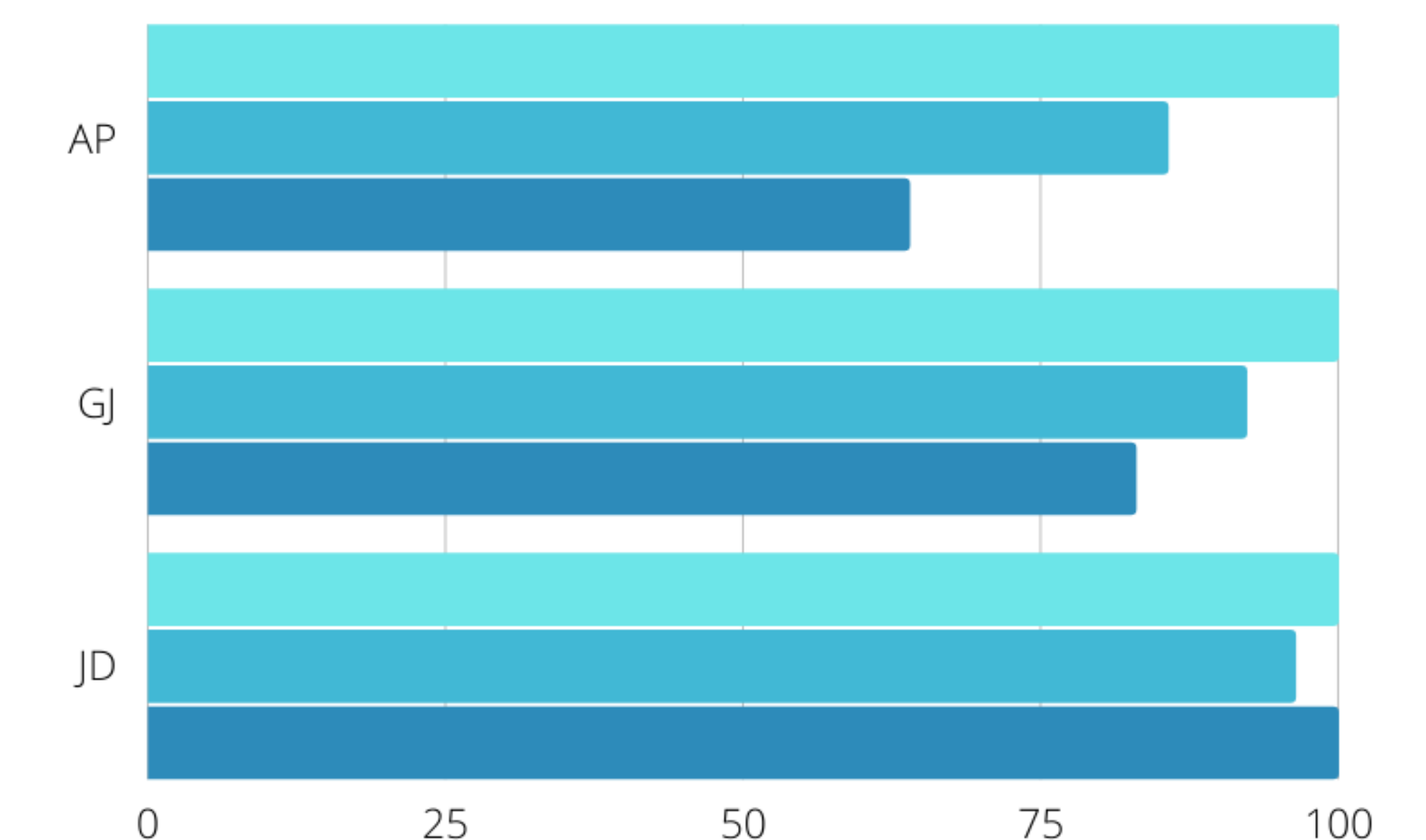


Percentage of Grammatical Status of Alveolar Nasal



OVERALL RESULTS

BASED ON ALL THREE VARIABLES



Conclusion

- Each participant indicated a high usage rate of all three non-standard variants
 - Anita used the variants the least
 - Jacqueline and Gregory had similar usage rates
- The participants' frequencies aligned with data from other studies of AAE speakers and their usage of the variants
 - This is due to their particular socioeconomic environment
- All participants used the alveolar nasal variant in every instance
 - That is possibly due to the context of the conversation and frequency of pronouns, verb, and gerund words
- Jacqueline's high usage could be a result of the influence of her grandmother's speech pattern
- Each participant's individual comfortability level with Margy could have affected their usage rates
 - Anita was the least talkative out of the three children which could indicate that she was the least comfortable and more likely to be speaking in her most careful speech.