

Unequal opportunities within education: the gap starts early and continues throughout individual lives

The early years are crucial

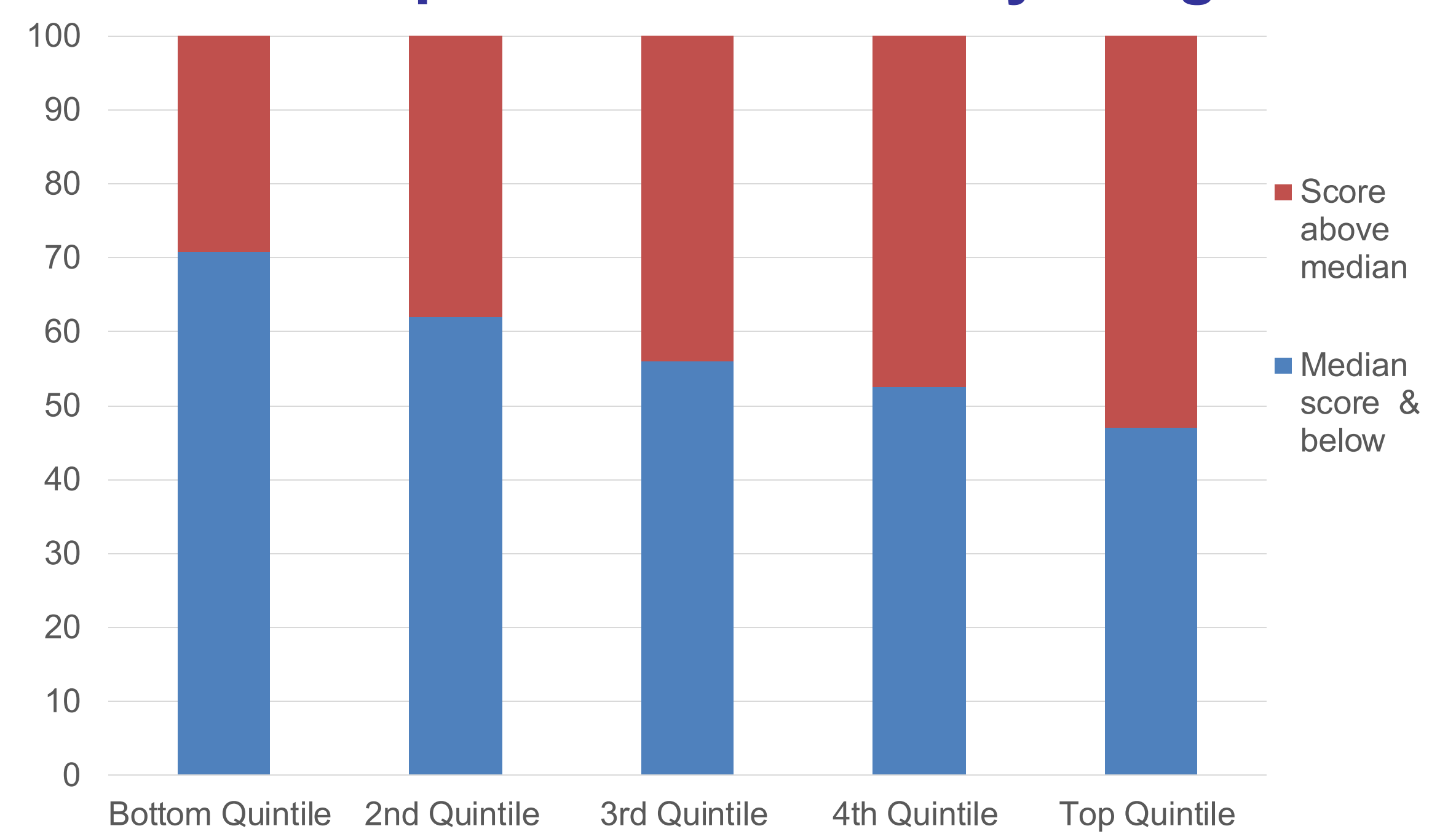
Children in Glasgow are less likely to meet their developmental milestones in early years



Percentages of children meeting developmental milestones between 27 and 30 months (2013/14-2015/16)

Economic disadvantage and cognitive outcomes

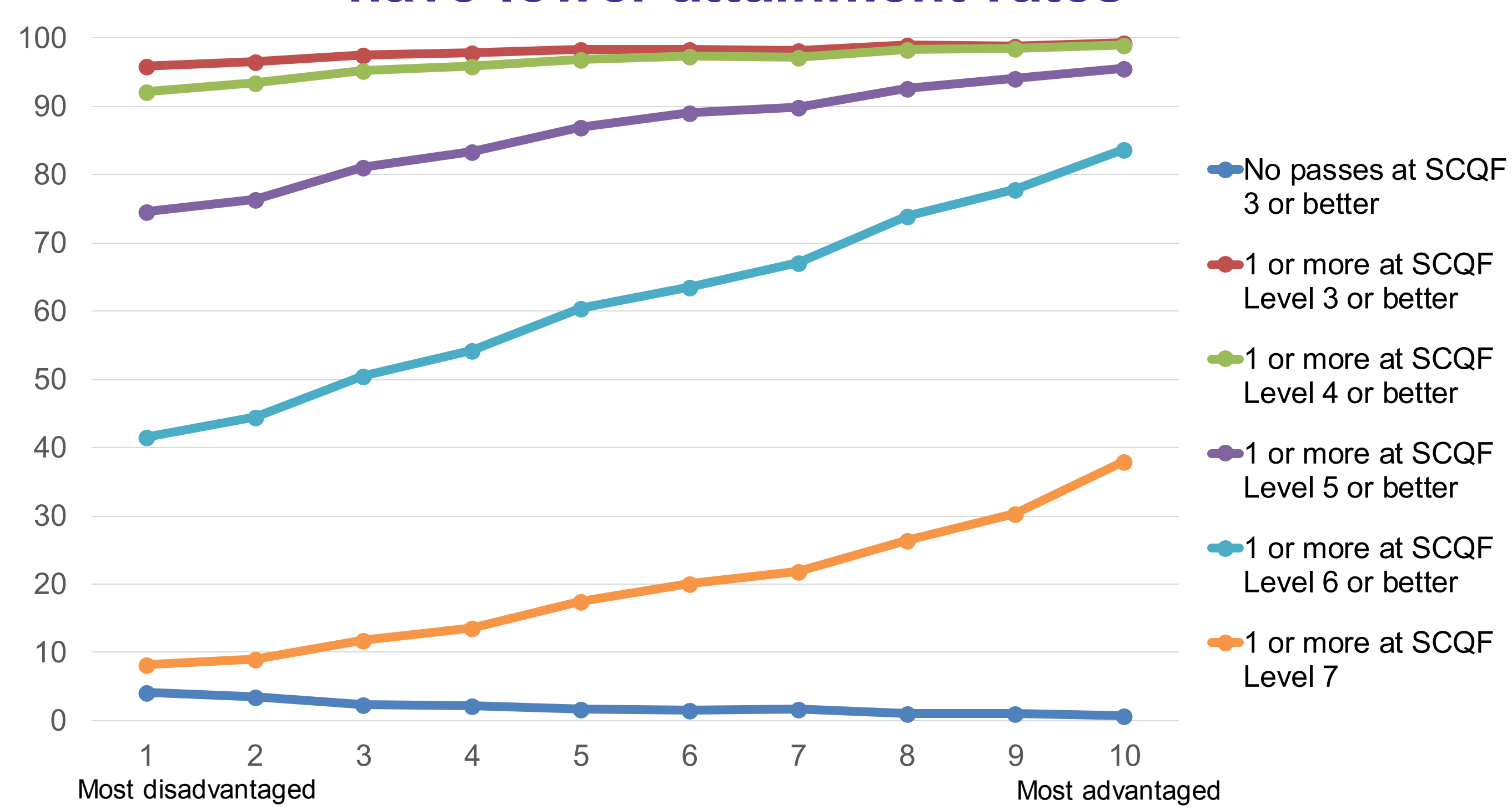
Scottish children from lower income families are considerably less likely to obtain an above-average score in expressive vocabulary at age 10



Percentages of children obtaining an expressive vocabulary score above the median by family income quintile
Data source: Growing Up in Scotland

Attainment gap and deprivation

School leavers in more disadvantaged areas in Scotland have lower attainment rates



Percentages of school leavers by SCQF level (1+) and SIMD deciles— Scotland, 2017

Inequalities in curriculum choices

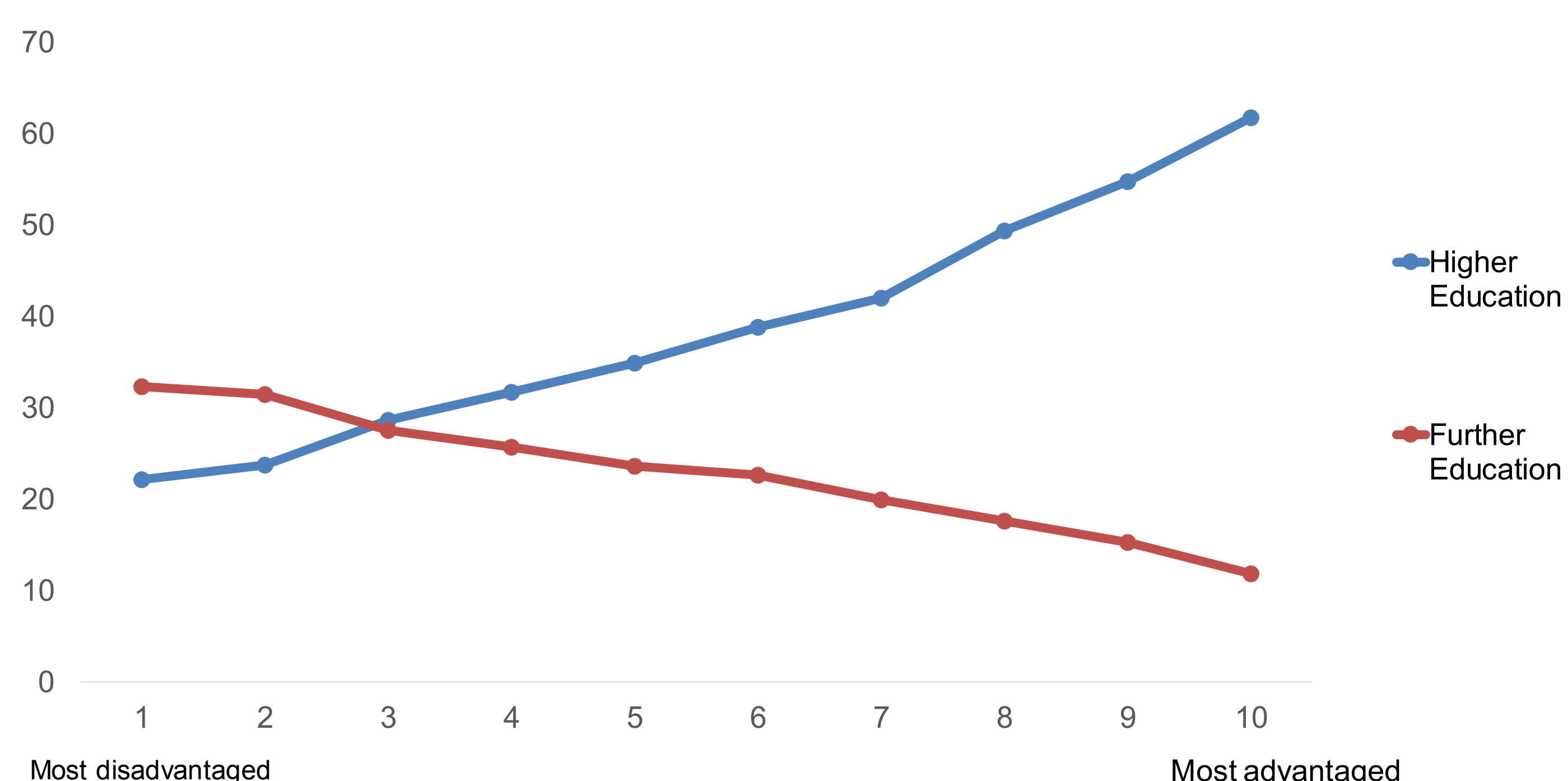
Subject choices influence students' opportunities to enter HE: disadvantaged students are less likely to study subjects which are valued for entry into HE

Parental education	English	Maths	Sciences	Languages
Parents with no qualifications	45	38	25	5
At least one parent with Standard Grades	61	50	39	9
One parent with Highers	72	63	47	14
Both parents with first degree	91	74	67	24

Uptake of selected subjects in S5/S6 by parental education (percentages).
Data source: Scottish Longitudinal Study

HE participation

School leavers from more disadvantaged areas are less likely to enter HE and more likely to attend FE



Post-school education in Scotland by SIMD deciles (2016/17)

Labour market outcomes if no HE/FE

School leavers are significantly more likely to be unemployed and inactive and to occupy lower status jobs when they leave school if they come from:

Jobless families

Families with low educated parents

Families living in social housing

However, this is mostly explained by the lower educational attainment, and to a lesser extent by the school subject choice, of pupils from these disadvantaged social groups