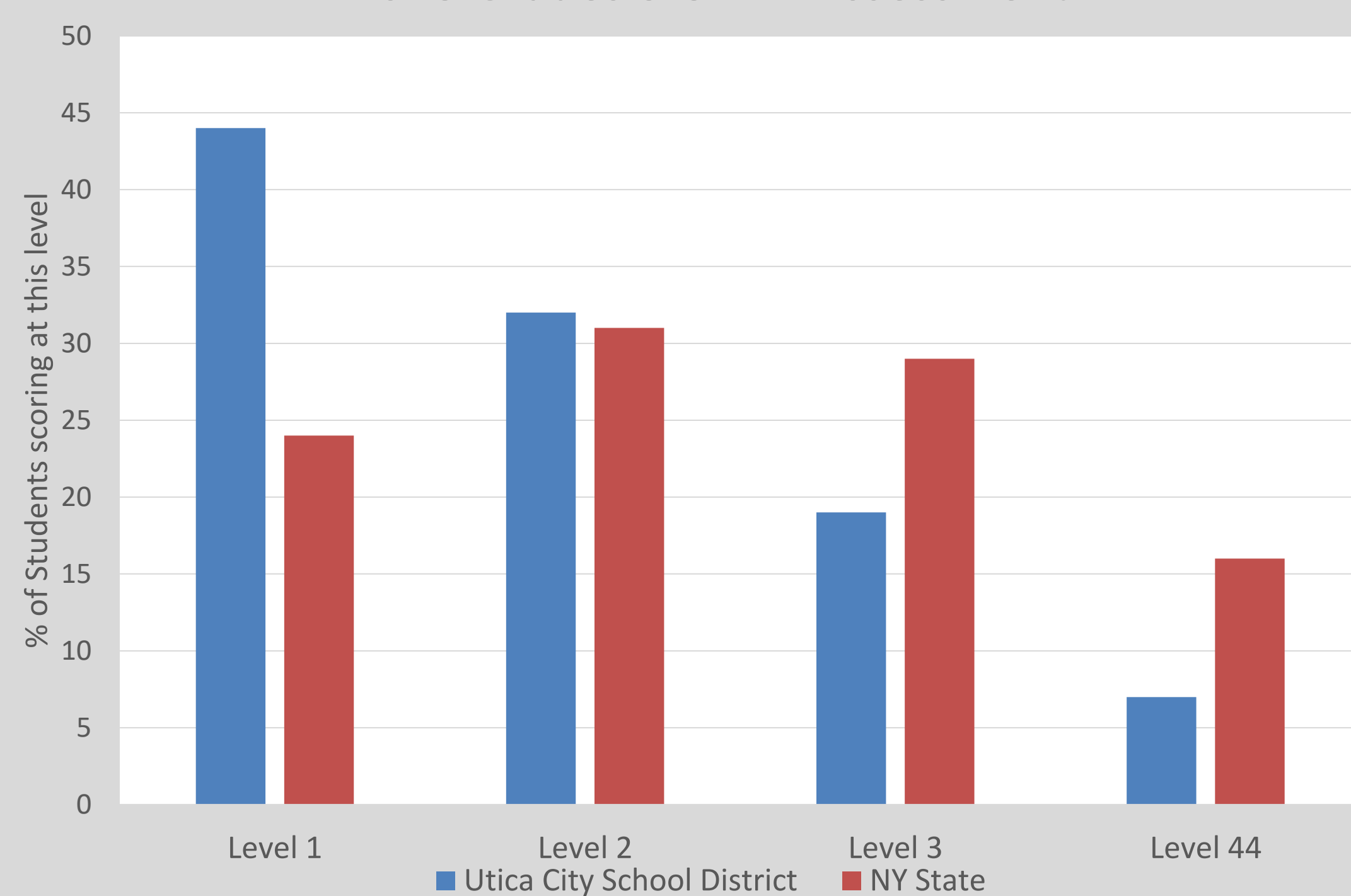


# Moving the Study Buddy Club Online

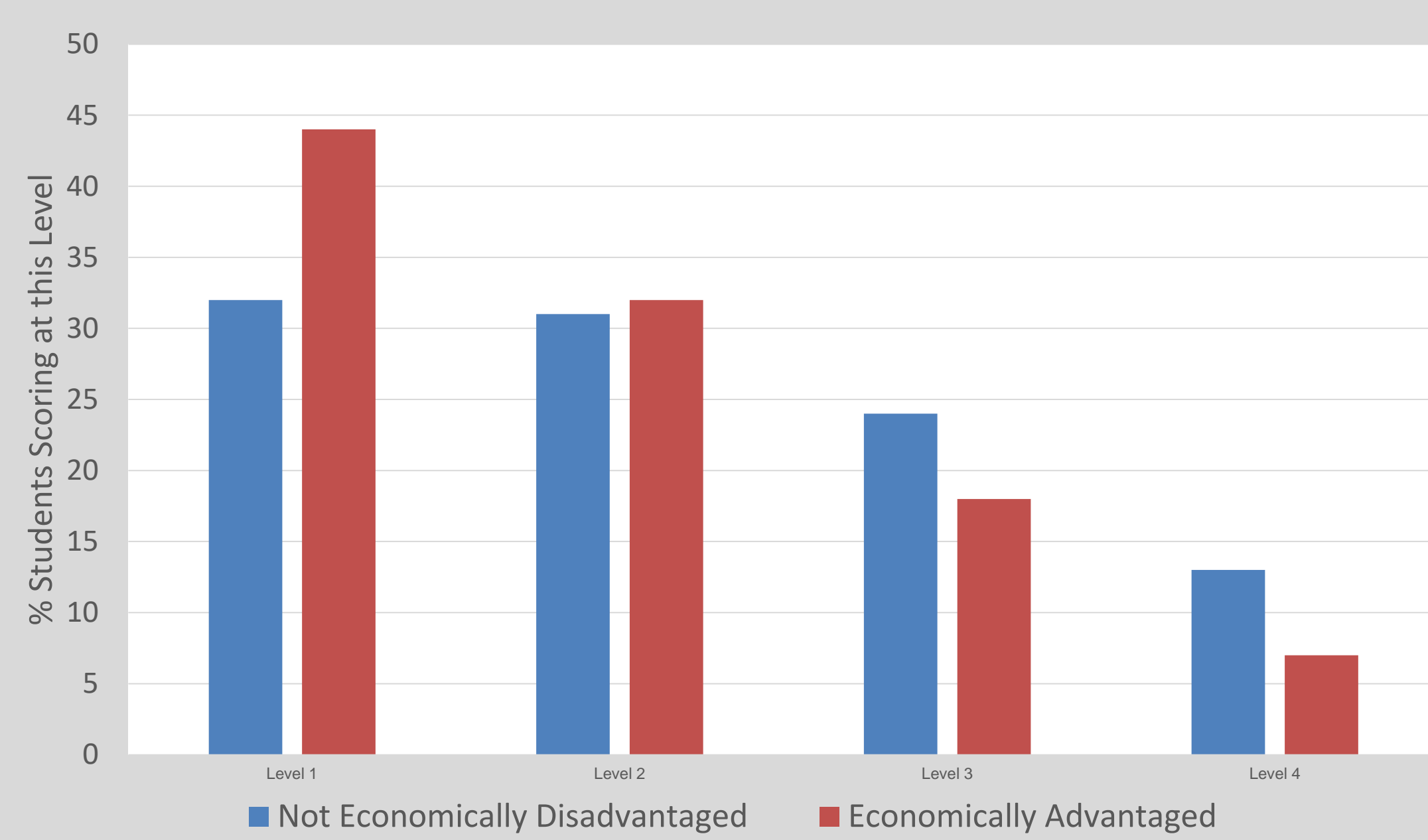
The Study Buddy Club is attempting to move online in light of school closures and social distancing guidelines due to COVID-19 outbreaks. However, this move requires both a shift in the operation of the program as well as funding, as many students need assistance for reliable access to computers as well as internet.

## Education in Utica

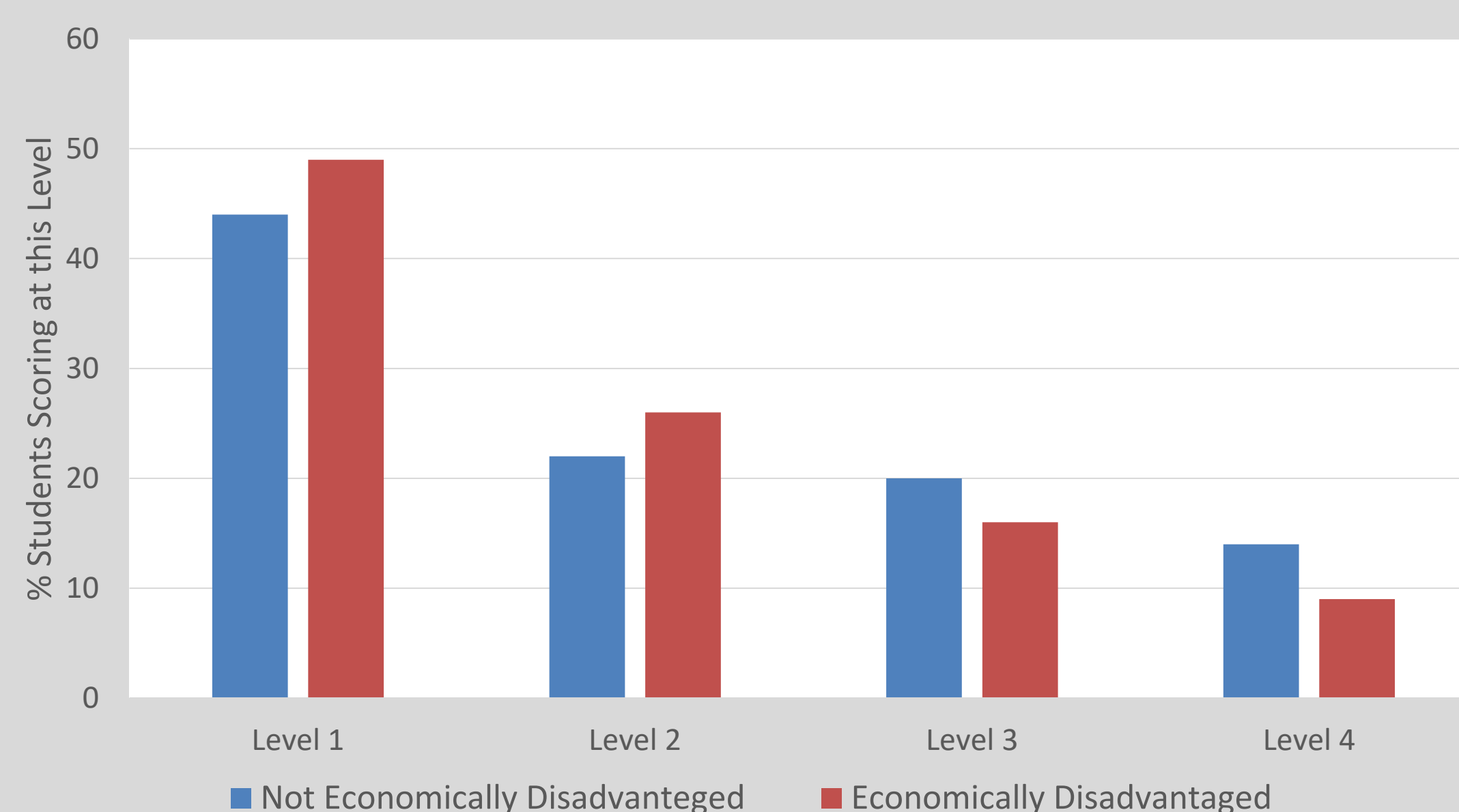
2018 Grades 3-8 ELA Assessment



2018 Grades ELA Assessment



2018 Grades 3-8 Mathematics Assessment



- New York defines economically disadvantaged students as those who participate in, or whose family participates in, economic assistance programs, such as the free or reduced-price lunch programs.
- 87% of students in the Utica School District are considered economically disadvantaged.
- New York scores these exams from Level 1 to Level 4. A Level 1 score demonstrates a student's achievement is considered well below proficient, a Level 2 score demonstrates a student's achievement is considered partially proficient, a Level 3 score demonstrates a student's achievement is considered proficient, and a Level 4 score demonstrates a student is considered to be excelling.
- The 2019 graduation rate in the Utica School District was 70%, compared to the statewide rate of 83%.

## Mission of the Study Buddy Club

To make a college education a real possibility for students by better preparing them academically.



Image taken from forthegoodinc.org

## Impact of Study Buddy Club

- From 2018 to 2019, the Study Buddy Club has made tutoring available for 20-30 students who would not otherwise be able to afford the cost of after school tutoring that can sometimes reach as high as \$90 a week. This tutoring is provided by local college students.
- The Study Buddy Club provides not only tutoring but also includes field trips to local colleges to acclimate its participants to the functions of a college so they will be better prepared.

## Securing Funding

The Study Buddy Club is reaching out to Cree Inc. a company moving into Utica that has supported STEM education initiatives in its other locations.