

**Policy and Practice  
on  
School Starting Age**

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# Age of Entry to School

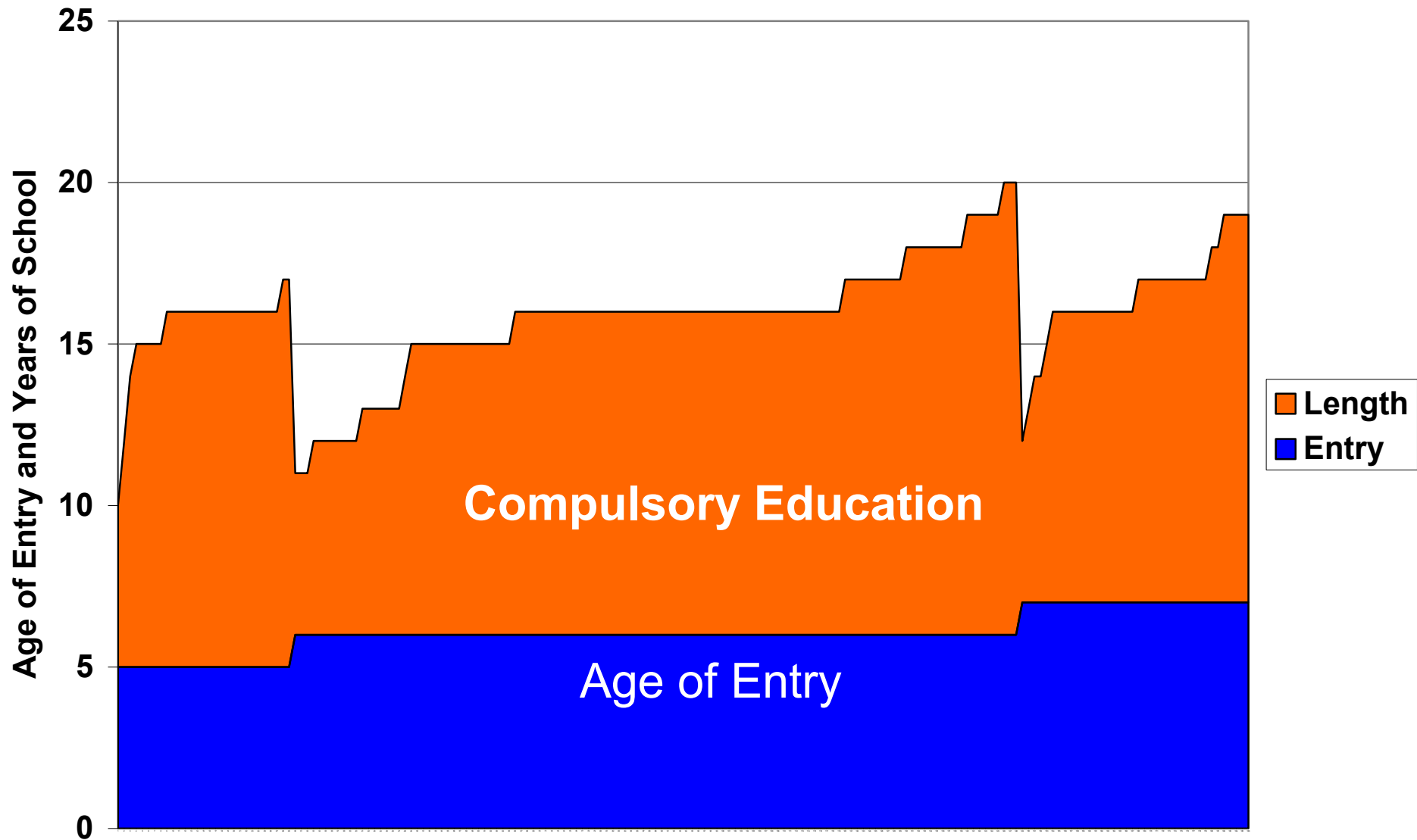
## The Issues and Some Evidence

- **Why is the Age of Admission to School Important?**
- **What are national and International Patterns for the Age of Admission to School?**
- **What are Patterns of Preschool?**
- **What are the Characteristics of Overage Children**
- **Does Age of Entry Affect Achievement?**
- **Policy Issues on Age of Entry**

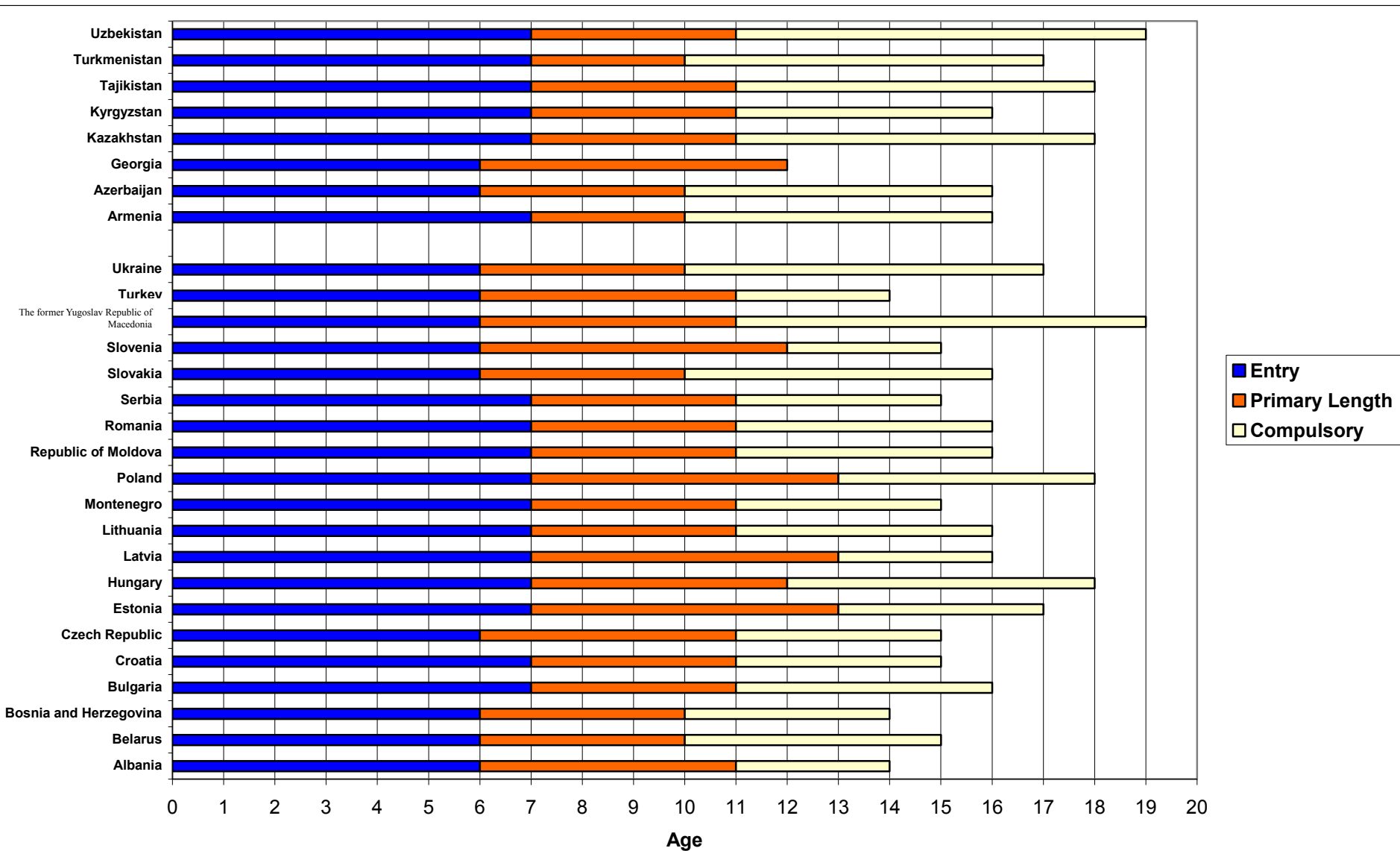
# 12 Reasons Why Age of Admission is Important

1	Lower ages of admission lead to more time to learn before leaving school
2	Late entry of children is correlated with lower performance
3	Cognitive maturation benefits from systematic stimulation at young ages
4	Gaps in performance linked to socio economic class grow with late entry
5	Age differences within a grade are associated with gaps in performance
6	Mono grade curricula are designed for single age cohorts
7	Staggered entry ages can reduce age in grade differences
8	Registration processes should not delay admission
9	Admission age should be linked to preschool provision
10	The probability of aver enrolling reduces with age
11	Age of entry is linked to age of completion of compulsory education
12	School admission age is a determinant of costs and sustainable financing

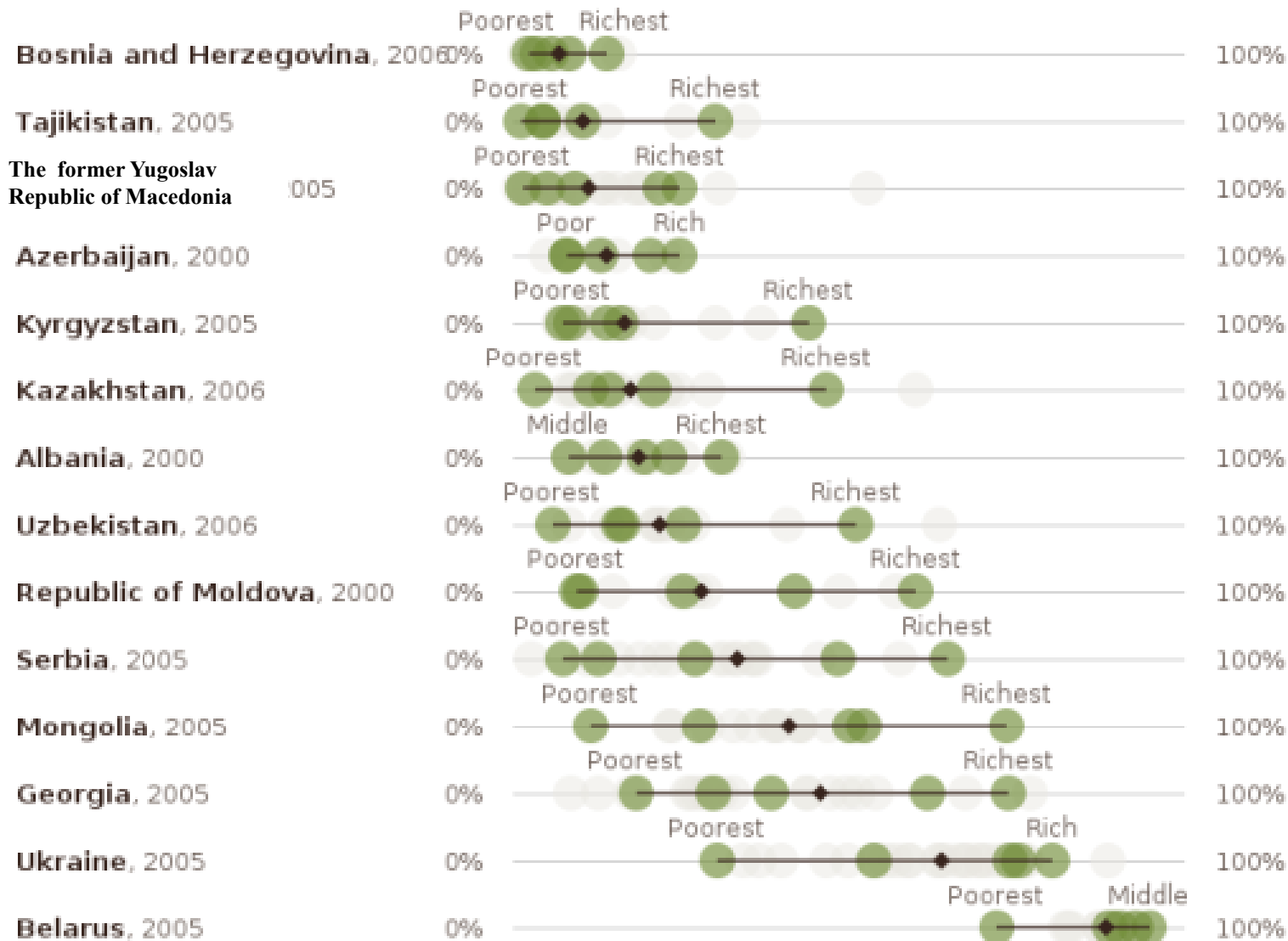
# Age of Entry – All Countries



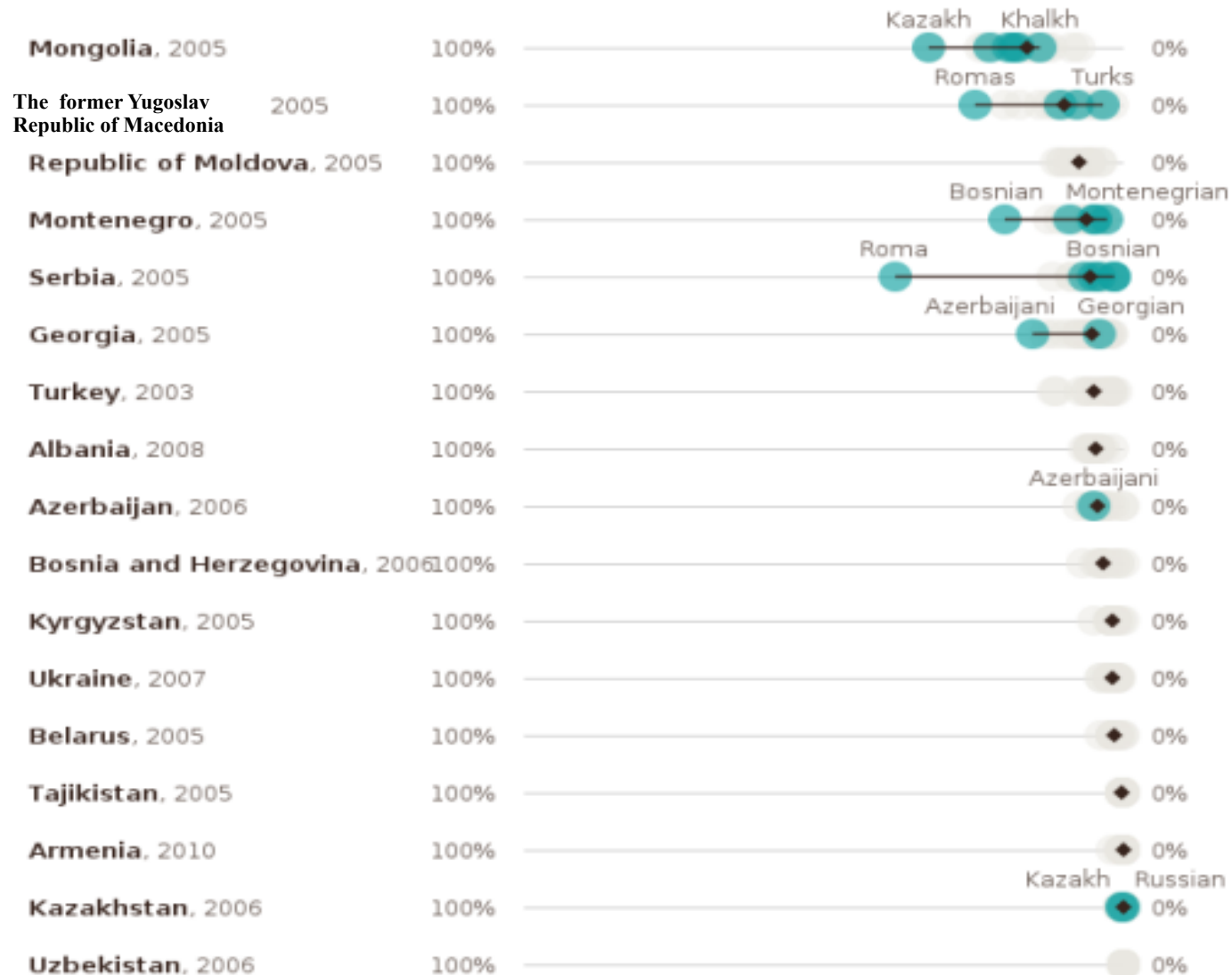
# Age of Entry, Length of Primary School and Length of Compulsory Schooling CEE/CIS



# Attendance in Pre School by Household Wealth

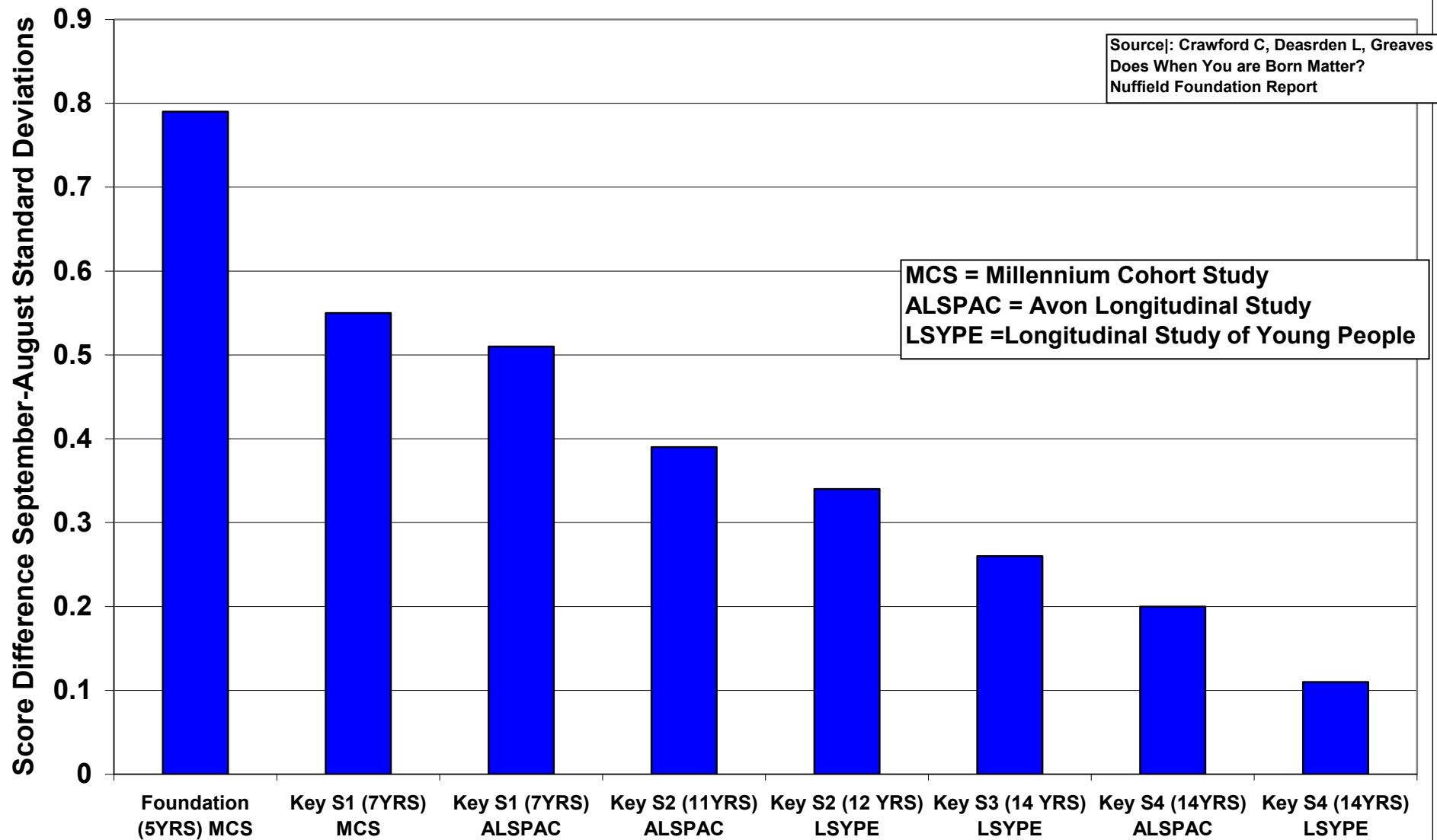


# Children 2 or More Years Over Age by Social Group



# Performance of August and September Children in UK

## Does Age within Class Matter?





# Policy Opportunities

1	Review admission age policy
2	Identify responsibilities for age appropriate enrolment
3	Support child seeking schools
4	Register all children and review/issue birth certificate
5	Ensure there are no financial barriers to registration and admission
6	Publicise admission dates and adapt to seasonalities
7	Provide two or three admission dates each year
8	Provide at least one year of pre school for every child
9	Review epidemiology linked to non enrolment and treat causes
10	Institutionalise child identity and child tracking systems
11	Introduce learning management systems that minimise repetition
12	Decrease the age of admission where it is 7 years, increase the length of short compulsory education systems

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