HALVE THE GAP BY 2030
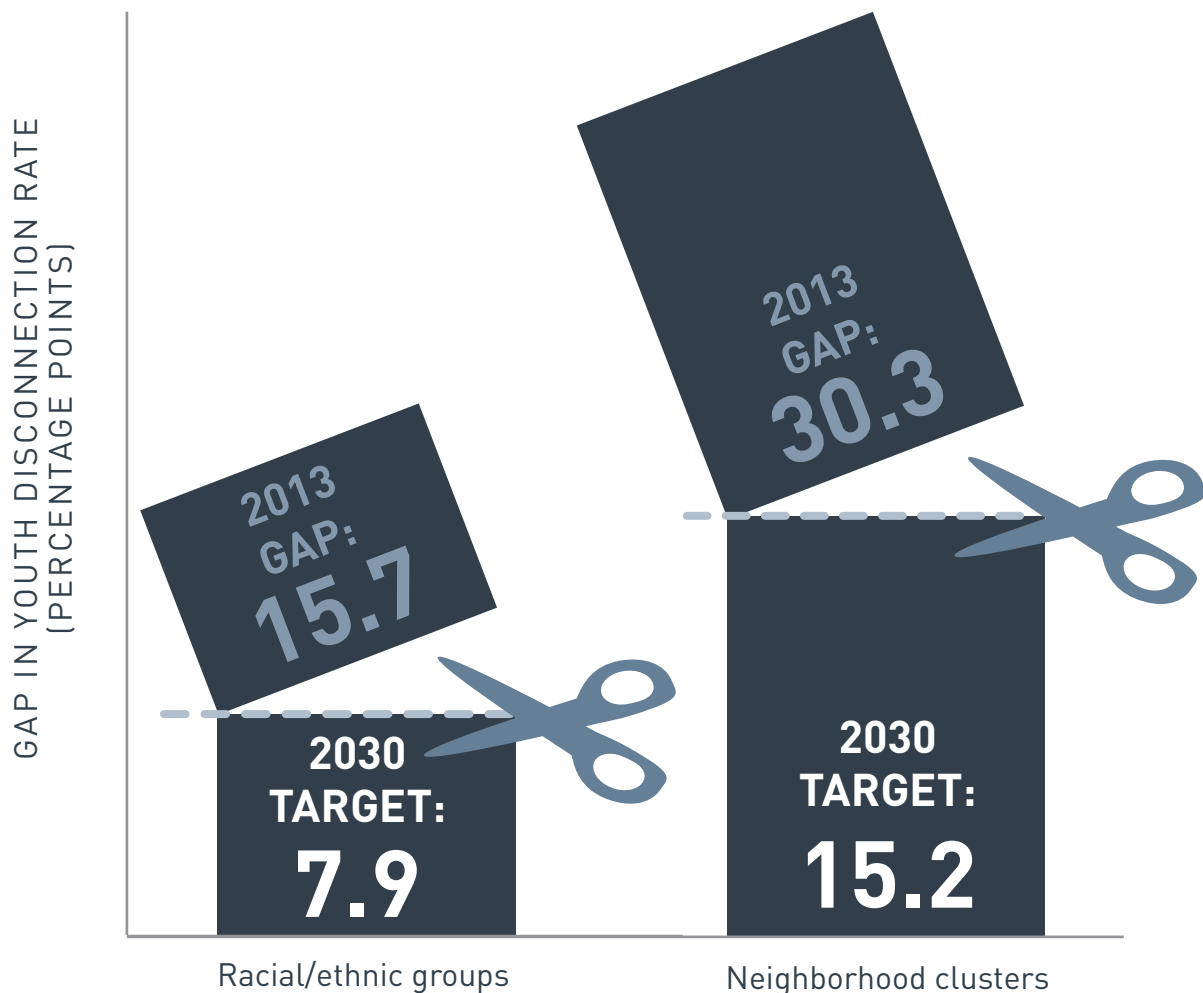
YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN AMERICA'S CITIES
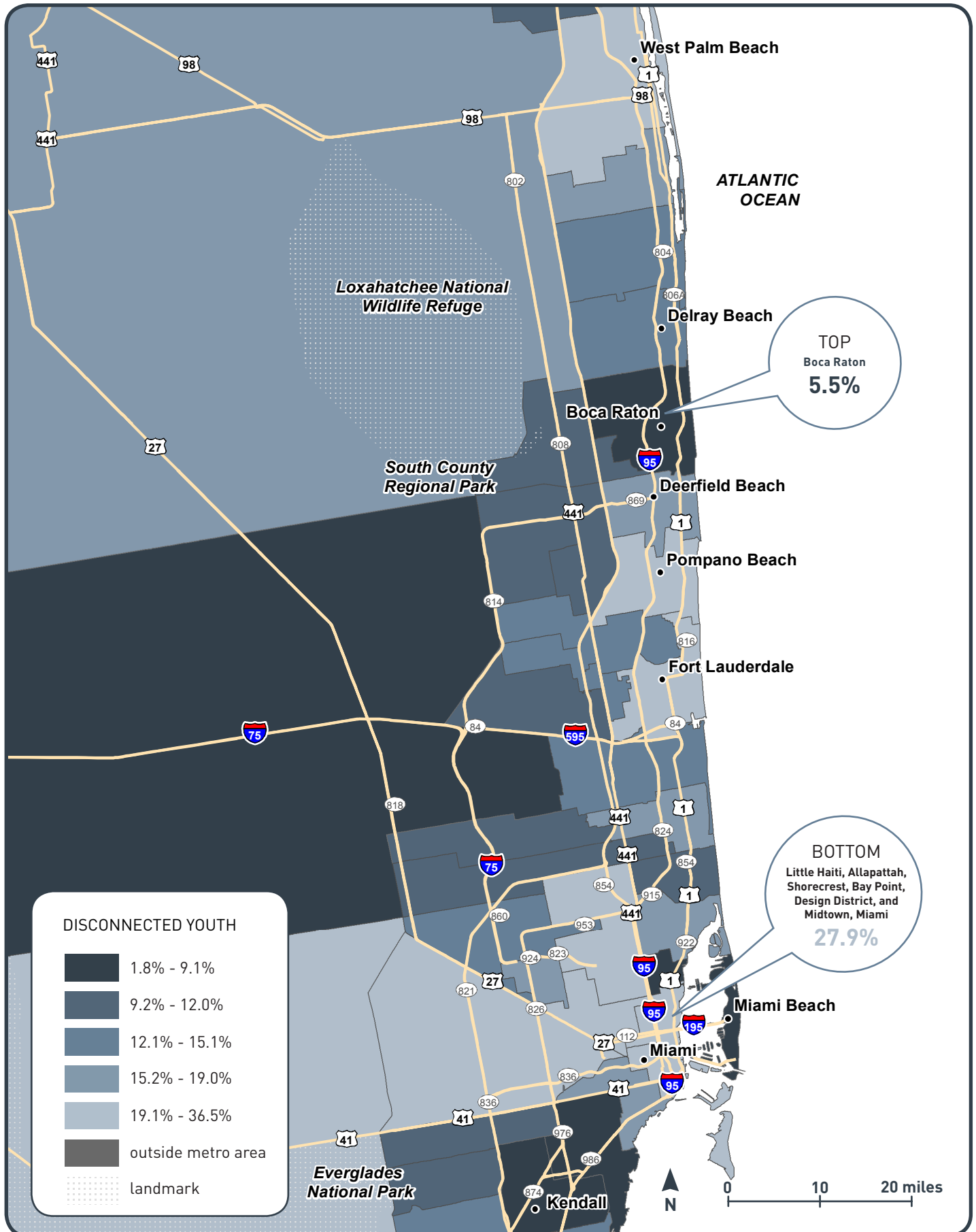
MIAMI METRO AREA CLOSE-UP

KRISTEN LEWIS and SARAH BURD-SHARPS

GAP IN YOUTH DISCONNECTION RATE (PERCENTAGE POINTS)

2013 GAP: 15.7

2013 GAP: 30.3

2030 TARGET: 7.9

2030 TARGET: 15.2

Racial/ethnic groups

Neighborhood clusters

Patrick Nolan Guyer | CHIEF STATISTICIAN & CARTOGRAPHER
Diana Tung | REPORT DESIGN

MEASURE OF **AMERICA**
of the Social Science Research Council

YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN THE MIAMI METRO AREA

West Palm Beach

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Delray Beach

TOP
Boca Raton
5.5%

Boca Raton

South County Regional Park

Deerfield Beach

Pompano Beach

Fort Lauderdale

BOTTOM
Little Haiti, Allapattah, Shorecrest, Bay Point, Design District, and Midtown, Miami
27.9%

Miami Beach

Miami

DISCONNECTED YOUTH

- 1.8% - 9.1%
- 9.2% - 12.0%
- 12.1% - 15.1%
- 15.2% - 19.0%
- 19.1% - 36.5%
- outside metro area
- landmark

Everglades National Park

Kendall

0   10   20 miles

N

About the Miami Metro Area Close-Up

This document is an excerpt from *Halve the Gap by 2030: Youth Disconnection in America's Cities*. It portrays in detail the landscape of youth disconnection in the Miami Metro Area, with a map of the metro area; identification of the neighborhood highs and lows; youth disconnection rates by race, ethnicity, and gender; and key well-being indicators to provide context.

Who Are Disconnected Youth: Definition and Data Sources

Disconnected youth are people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither in school nor working. Young people in this age range who are working or in school part-time or who are in the military are not considered disconnected. Youth disconnection rates in this report are calculated by Measure of America using employment and enrollment data from the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) of the US Census Bureau. For further details, see the Note on Methods and Definitions.

Several official data sources exist that can be used for calculating youth disconnection. As a result, researchers working with different data sets, or different definitions of what constitutes disconnection, arrive at different numbers for this indicator. Measure of America uses the ACS for four reasons: (1) it is reliable and updated annually; (2) it allows for calculations by state and metro area as well as by the more granular census-defined neighborhood clusters within metro areas; (3) it includes young people who are in group quarters, such as juvenile or adult correctional facilities, supervised medical facilities, and college dorms; and (4) it counts students on summer break as being enrolled in school.

MEASUREOF**AMERICA**

Measure of America, a project of the Social Science Research Council, provides easy-to-use yet methodologically sound tools for understanding well-being and opportunity in the United States and to stimulate fact-based dialogue about issues we all care about: **health**, **education**, and **living standards**. The root of this work is the human development and capabilities approach, the brainchild of Harvard professor and Nobel laureate Amartya Sen.

Human development is about improving people's well-being and expanding their choices and opportunities to live freely chosen lives of value. The period of young adulthood is critical to developing the capabilities required for a full and flourishing life: knowledge and credentials, social skills and networks, a sense of mastery and agency, an understanding of one's strengths and preferences, and the ability to handle stressful events and regulate one's emotions, to name just a few. Measure of America is thus concerned with youth disconnection because it stunts human development, closing off some of life's most rewarding and joyful paths and leading to a future of limited horizons and unrealized potential.

The **Miami metro area** is comprised of three Florida counties, Miami–Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach. Sixteen percent of Miami youth are neither in school nor employed, a nineteenth place finish among America's twenty-five most populous metropolitan areas. Miami lags behind eighteenth-ranked Tampa–St. Petersburg. Of greater Miami's almost 670,000 teens and young adults, about 107,000 are detached from key social and economic anchors as they transition to adulthood.

Youth Disconnection by Race and Ethnicity

All three major racial and ethnic groups in Miami—African Americans, Latinos, and whites—experience disconnection rates that are lower than the national rate for their respective racial and ethnic group. For example, the Miami youth disconnection rate for Latinos is 16.6 percent, and the national rate for Latinos is 17.9. It may therefore seem paradoxical that Miami nonetheless falls to 19th place in the metro area rankings. This is because although African Americans and Latinos are doing slightly better in Miami than African Americans and Latinos in the United States as a whole, their disconnection rates are still much higher than the disconnection rate of whites. The population of the Miami metro area is also more heavily African American and Latino than the nation as a whole. The gap between the youth disconnection rates of African Americans and whites is 10.2 percentage points.

How Do Racial and Ethnic Groups Compare to Each Other and to Their National Counterparts?

	Miami	United States
WHITES	10.8%	11.7%
LATINOS	16.6%	17.9%
AFRICAN AMERICANS	21.0%	22.5%

MIAMI

⑲
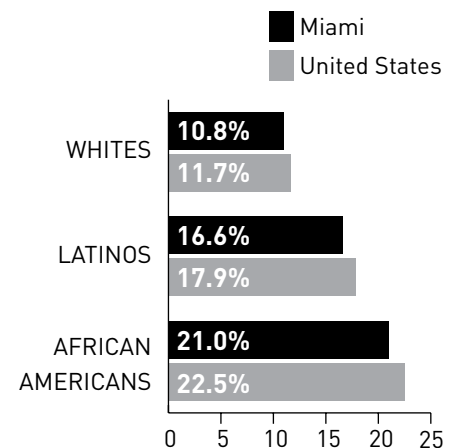
Youth Disconnection by Gender

Miami is one of eight metro areas in this study where young men are significantly more likely to be disconnected than young women. Young men in Miami have a disconnection rate of 17.2, whereas young women have a rate of 14.8 percent. The other major metro areas where young men significantly trail their female counterparts are Boston, Denver, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Washington, DC.
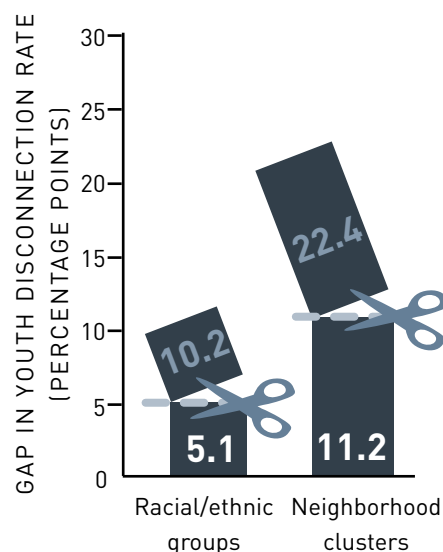
Youth Disconnection by Neighborhood

In the three Miami neighborhood clusters with the highest rates of youth disconnection, Brownsville and Gladeview in Miami–Dade, Ft. Lauderdale, and the Miami neighborhoods of Little Haiti, Allapattah, Shorecrest, Bay Point, Design District, and Midtown, nearly one in four young people is out of school and not working. At least one-third of all children in these neighborhood clusters live in poverty, and adult unemployment is in the double-digits.

In contrast, in the three neighborhood clusters with the lowest rates of youth disconnection, Boca Raton, South Miami and Coral Gables in Miami–Dade County, and Weston and Cooper City in Broward County, fewer than seven in every one hundred young people are disconnected, poverty rates and unemployment are low, and adult educational attainment is high.

Across urban neighborhoods, areas with larger non-white populations tend to have higher rates of youth disconnection and areas with smaller non-white populations tend to have lower rates youth disconnection. Miami is an interesting exception. In South Miami and Coral Gables in Miami–Dade County, where youth disconnection is only 6.7 percent, Latinos are a strong majority, comprising nearly two-thirds of the population. About 46 percent of adults in this neighborhood have completed a bachelor's degree, compared to 29 percent for the Miami metro area overall.

Halve the Gap in Miami

Most Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Boca Raton, FL	5.5
South Miami and Coral Gables, Miami-Dade County, FL	6.7
Weston and Cooper City, Broward County, FL	7.0

Least Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Brownsville and Gladeview, Miami-Dade County, FL	24.4
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	24.9
Little Haiti, Allapattah, Shorecrest, Bay Point, Design District, and Midtown, Miami, FL	27.9