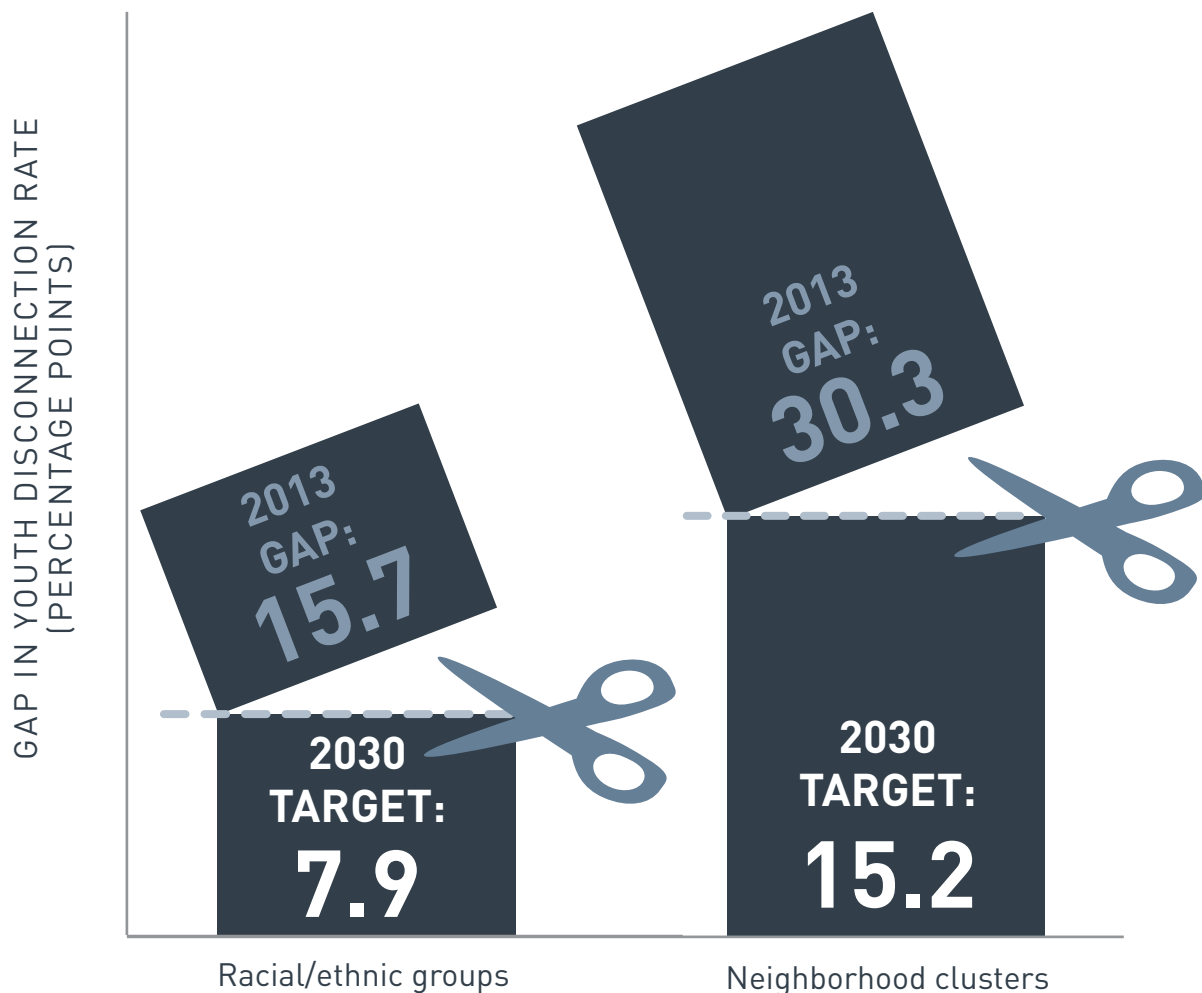# HALVE THE GAP BY 2030

YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN AMERICA'S CITIES

RIVERSIDE–SAN BERNARDINO METRO AREA CLOSE-UP
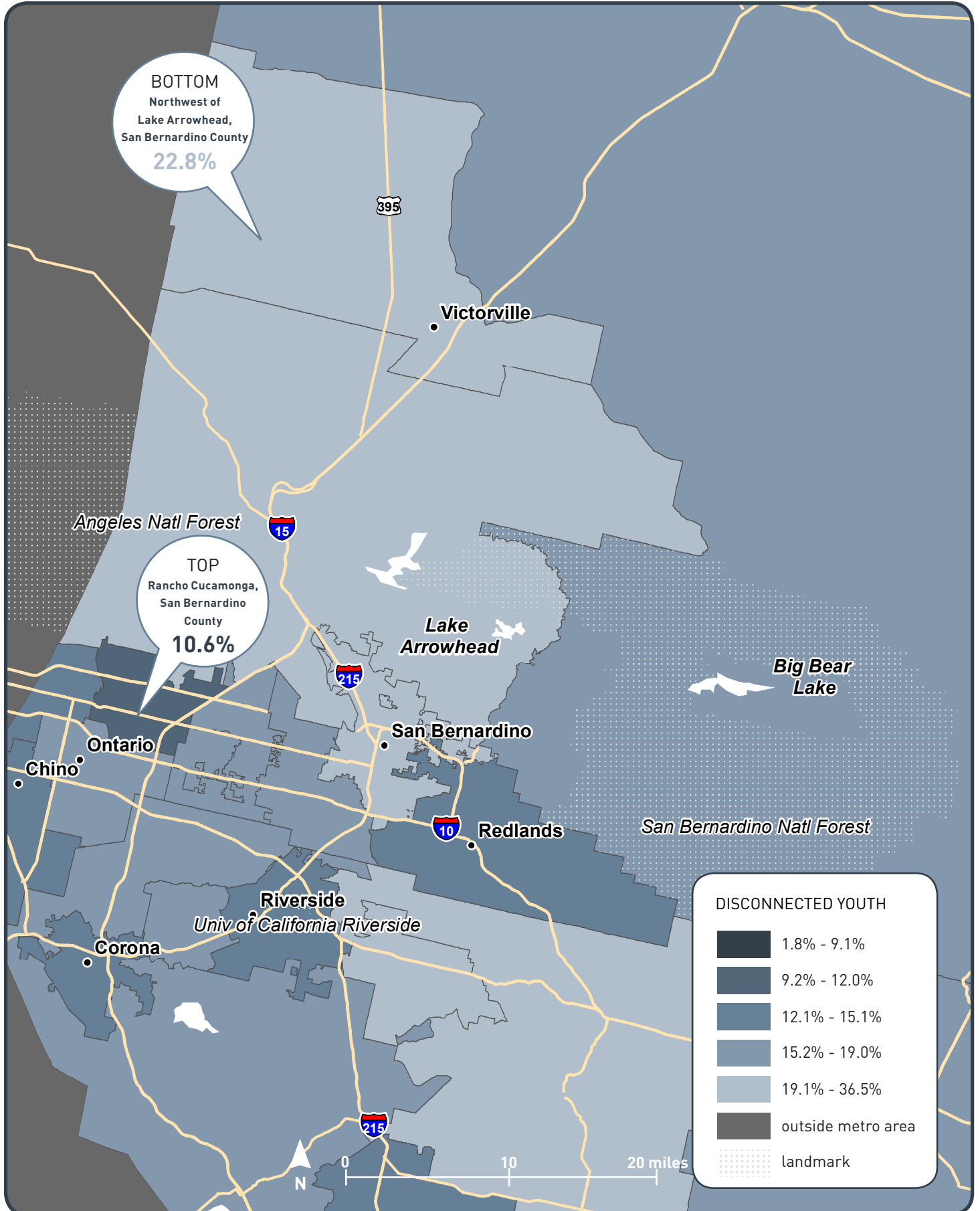
KRISTEN LEWIS and SARAH BURD-SHARPS

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

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BOTTOM
**Northwest of
Lake Arrowhead,
San Bernardino County**
22.8%

395

Victorville

Angeles Natl Forest

15

TOP
**Rancho Cucamonga,
San Bernardino
County**
10.6%

*Lake
Arrowhead*

215

*Big Bear
Lake*

Ontario

Chino

San Bernardino

10 Redlands

San Bernardino Natl Forest

Riverside
Univ of California Riverside

Corona

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

0   10   20 miles

N

215

About the Riverside–San Bernardino 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 Riverside–San Bernardino 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.

KEY WELL-BEING INDICATORS

HD Index: 4.60 out of 10

HD Index ranking: 24th out of 24

Total population: 4,301,841

Adult unemployment rate: 13.3%

Adults with at least bachelor's degree: 19.4%

Poverty rate: 18%

Youth unemployment rate (ages 16–24): 28.6%

School enrollment rate (ages 16–24): 58%

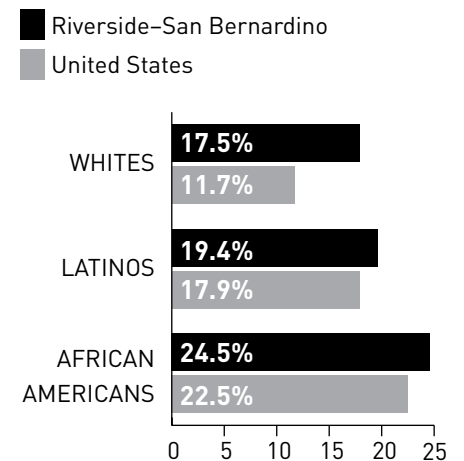Sources: *Measure of America 2013-2014* and U.S. Census Bureau, 2011.

The **Riverside–San Bernardino metro area**, one of the fastest-growing areas of California over the past decade, is now home to one in every nine Californians. It is comprised of Riverside County and San Bernardino County. The youth disconnection rate in the Inland Empire is 18.8 percent, or nearly one in five; an alarming 117,000 of the roughly 620,000 teens and young adults in the 16 to 24 year old age range are not engaged with either school or work. This is the higest rate of youth disconnection among the country's most populous twenty-five metro areas.

Youth Disconnection by Race and Ethnicity

The national pattern of disconnection by race and ethnicity is reflected in Riverside–San Bernardino: whites have the lowest rates followed by Latinos and African Americans (the Asian American population is too small to allow reliable calculations for this group). Seven percentage points separate whites and African Americans.

Yet in a metro area facing steep challenges with youth employment and education, the group that is farthest off from the national trend is white teenagers and young people. The white rate of disconnection is nearly 50 percent higher than the national rate for white youth and more than double that of nearby San Diego. One important factor driving this is the rate of education among white adults in the city. While over 40 percent of white adults in both Los Angeles and San Diego have at least a bachelor's degree, only 25 percent of whites do in the Inland Empire. As discussed

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

■ Riverside–San Bernardino
▪ United States

	Riverside–San Bernardino	United States
WHITES	17.5%	11.7%
LATINOS	19.4%	17.9%
AFRICAN AMERICANS	24.5%	22.5%

0 5 10 15 20 25

above, the positive relationship between college-educated adults in a community and youth connection is clear, not only for their own children but for all young adults in the community: as the proportion of adults with a bachelor's degree increases, disconnection among youth declines rapidly.
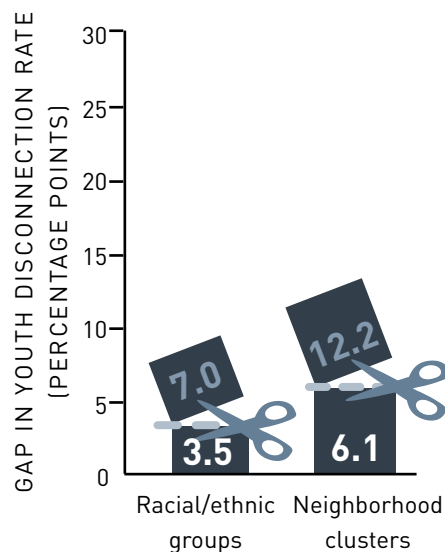
Youth Disconnection by Gender

Disconnection rates are identical for males and females, in contrast to the national trend where young men are more likely to be out of the workforce and not in school than young women. This translates to roughly 56,000 young women and 60,000 young men who are unmoored from these anchor institutions.

Youth Disconnection by Neighborhood

The Riverside–San Bernardino metro area is made up of twenty neighborhood clusters. Youth disconnection rates range from 10.6 percent in Rancho Cucamonga to 22.8 percent in the area northwest of Lake Arrowhead. Reflecting the scale of its challenges with this issue, Riverside–San Bernardino is the only metro area in the twenty-five studied where the best rate of disconnection is above 10 percent; Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego all have at least one neighborhood with a disconnection rate below 4 percent.

Halve the Gap in Riverside–San Bernardino

Most Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County, CA	10.6
Redlands, San Bernardino County, CA	13.2
Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, CA	13.4

Least Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
San Bernardino proper, CA	22.5
Southwest of Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County, CA	22.5
Northwest of Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County, CA	22.8