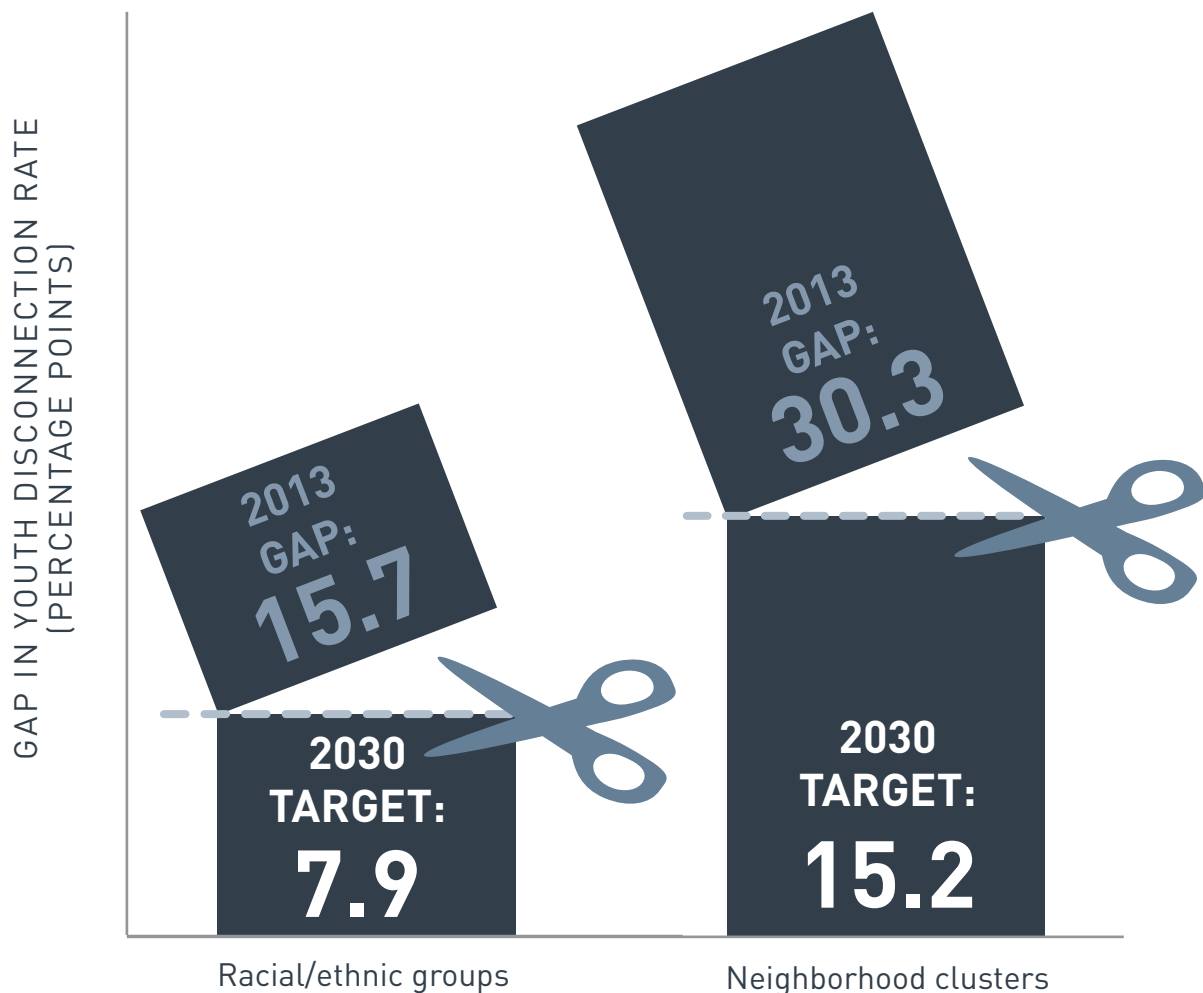


HALVE THE GAP BY 2030

YOUTH DISCONNECTION
IN AMERICA'S CITIES

TAMPA-ST. PETERSBURG METRO AREA CLOSE-UP

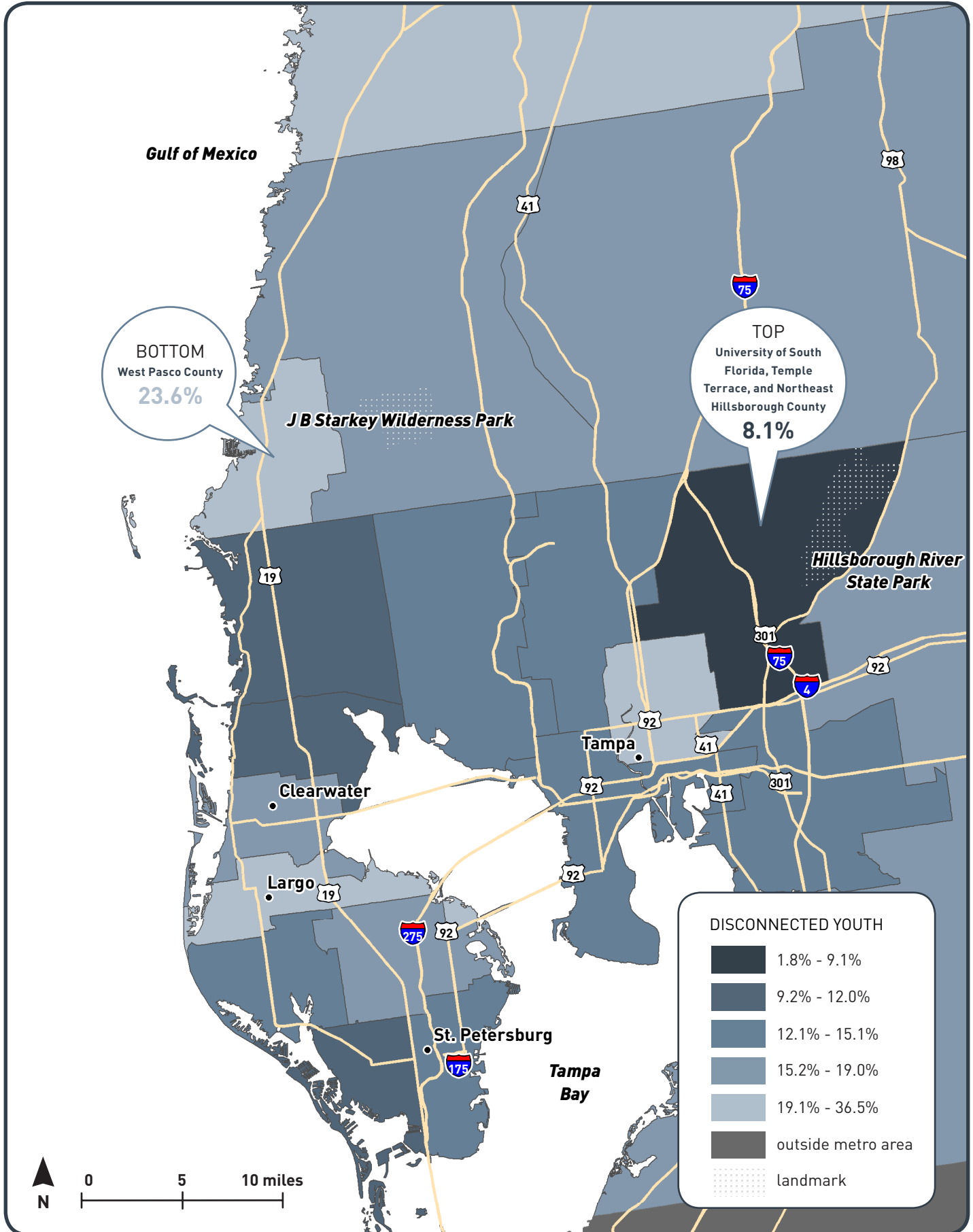
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YOUTH DISCONNECTION IN THE TAMPA-ST. PETERSBURG METRO AREA



About the Tampa–St. Petersburg 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 Tampa–St. Petersburg 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.



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: 4.75 out of 10

HD Index ranking: 22nd out of 24

Total population: 2,826,438

Adult unemployment rate: 10.5%

Adults with at least bachelor's degree: 24.9%

Poverty rate: 16.3%

Youth unemployment rate (ages 16–24): 22.6%

School enrollment rate (ages 16–24): 60.2%

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

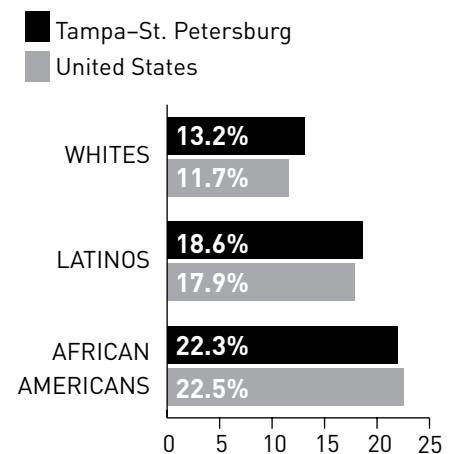
The **Tampa–St.Petersburg metro area** is comprised of Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, and Hernando Counties and extends over some 2,500 square miles. Tampa–St. Pete has a youth disconnection rate of 15.8 percent, just edging out Miami in the rankings and close on the heels of San Antonio. Almost 50,000 young people in this metro area are neither working nor in school; detached from these key social and economic anchors, they are adrift at a critical point in life.

Youth Disconnection by Race and Ethnicity

Both the racial breakdown of the Tampa–St. Petersburg metro area and the rates of youth disconnection among the largest racial and ethnic groups in the city resemble broader nationwide patterns. African Americans make up 11.5 percent of the city's population, Latinos make up 16.6 percent of the population, and whites account for 66.6 percent. There are too few Asian Americans in the 16–24 year-old age group in Tampa to reliably calculate their rate of youth disconnection.

Youth disconnection rates likewise largely mirror the national pattern. In Tampa–St. Pete, the youth disconnection rate is 22.3 percent for African Americans, 18.6 percent for Latinos, and 13.2 percent for whites.

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



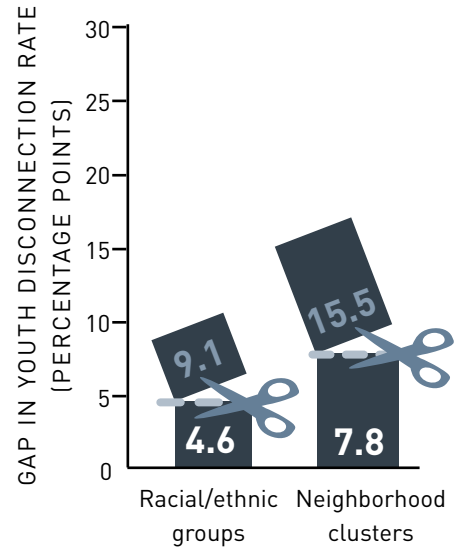
Youth Disconnection by Gender

In Tampa, 14.7 percent of female youth are neither in school nor work, compared with 14.1 percent nationwide; and 16.9 percent of male youth are disconnected, compared with 15.1 percent nationwide. Thus, the gender gap is slightly larger in Tampa than in the nation as a whole.

Youth Disconnection by Neighborhood

The range of youth disconnection rates among the twenty neighborhood clusters in the Tampa–St. Petersburg metro area is relatively small compared to other cities across the country and less than half of the range found in the most unequal metro areas, such as Detroit. The youth disconnection rates in Tampa–St. Petersburg span from 8.1 percent in the areas of University of South Florida, Temple Terrace, and Northeast Hillsborough County to 23.6 percent in West Pasco County, a difference of 15.5 percentage points. This is among the smallest neighborhood ranges found among the twenty-five largest metro areas.

Halve the Gap in Tampa–St. Petersburg



Most Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
University of South Florida, Temple Terrace, and Northeast Hillsborough County, FL	8.1
Dunedin and Safety Harbor, Pinellas County, FL	9.6
St. Petersburg Beach, FL	9.9

Least Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Hernando County, FL	19.6
Tampa, Ybor City, and Egypt Lake, Hillsborough County, FL	22.0
West Pasco County, FL	23.6