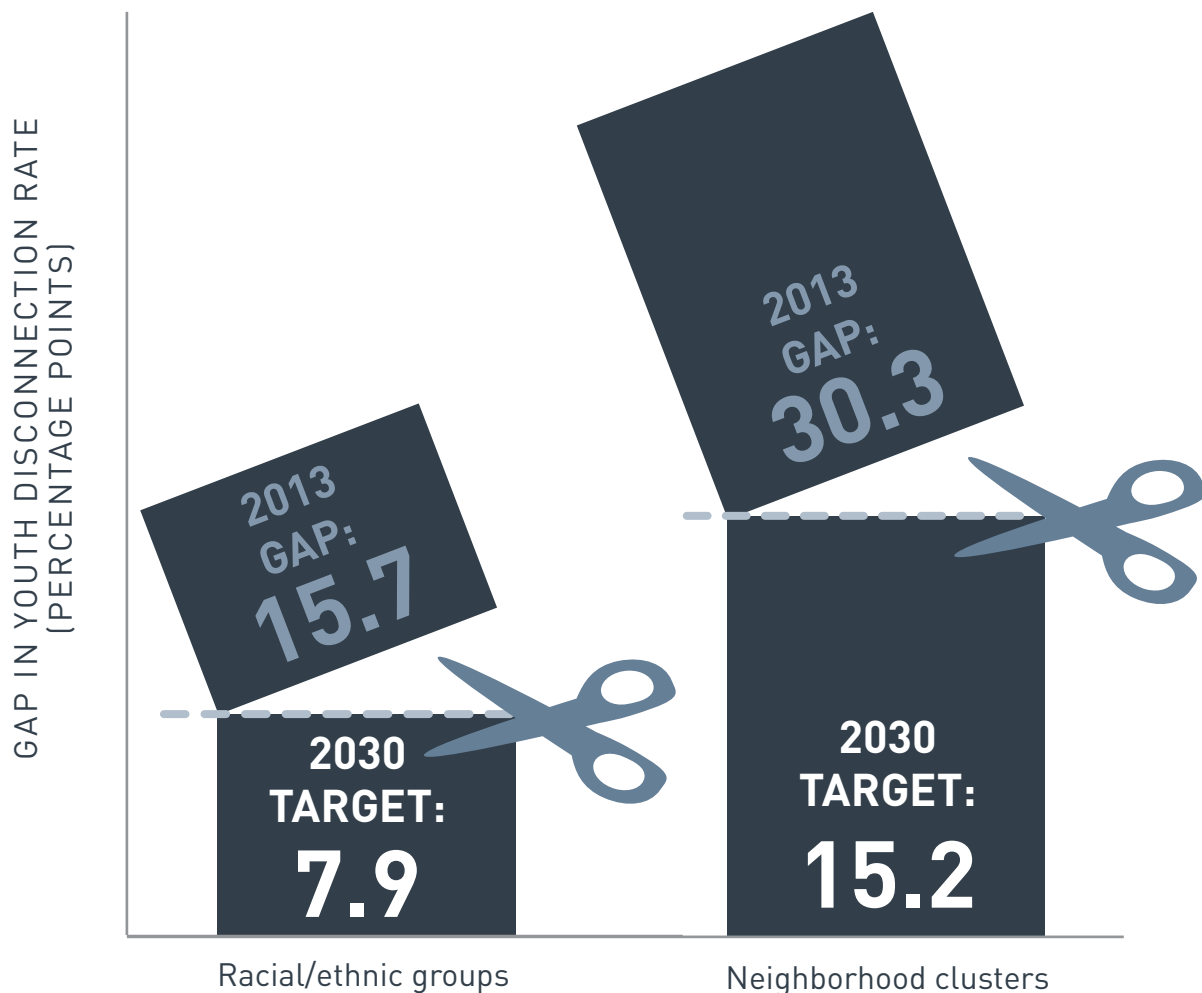


HALVE THE GAP BY 2030

YOUTH DISCONNECTION
IN AMERICA'S CITIES

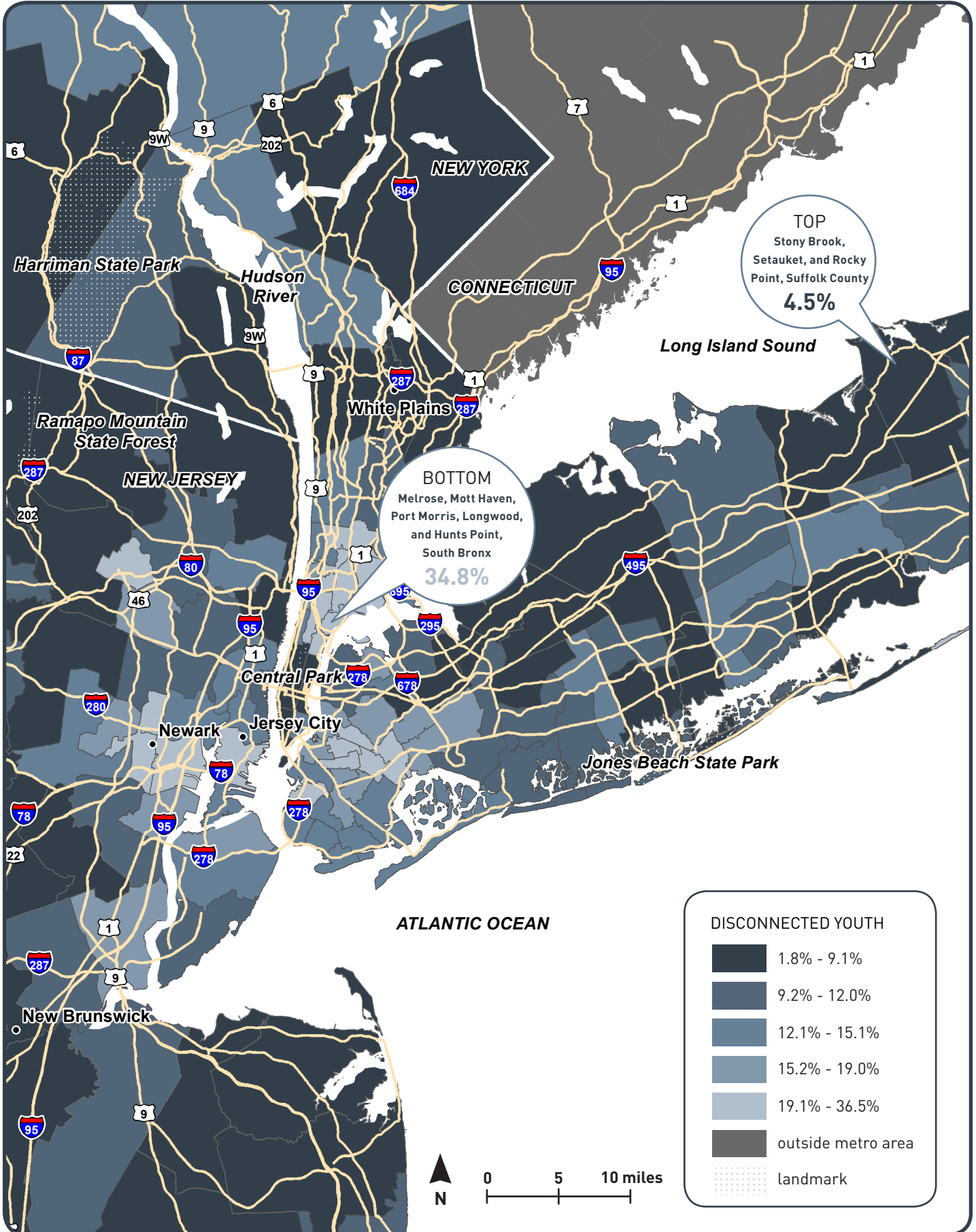
NEW YORK METRO AREA CLOSE-UP

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About the New York 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 New York 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: 6.12 out of 10

HD Index ranking: 5th out of 24

Total population: 19,729,930

Adult unemployment rate: 8.6%

Adults with at least bachelor's degree: 36.2%

Poverty rate: 14.4%

Youth unemployment rate (ages 16–24): 22.1%

School enrollment rate (ages 16–24): 65.3%

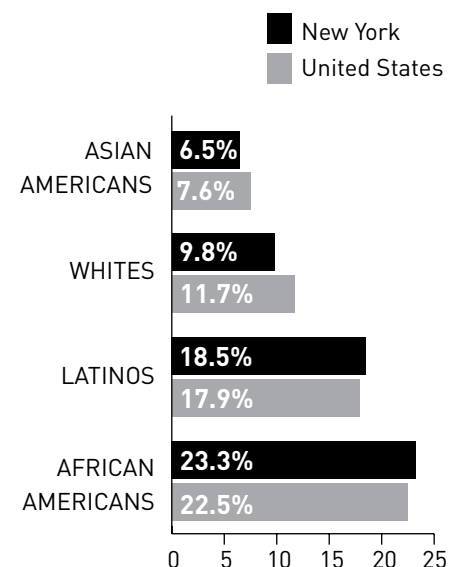
Sources: *Measure of America 2013-2014* and U.S. Census Bureau, 2011.

The **New York metro area** falls in the middle of the pack in terms of youth disconnection, with a rate of 14.5 percent of teens and young adults ages 16 to 24 who are neither in school nor working. New York is the most populous metro area nationwide, with 19.8 million residents spread out over twenty-five counties. These counties are New York City's five boroughs as well as Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Suffolk, Nassau, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties in New York State; New Jersey's Bergen, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Passaic, Essex, Union, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Hunterdon Counties; and Pennsylvania's Pike County. Almost one out of every sixteen Americans lives in this region, translating into a population of nearly 2.5 million young people. Over 353,000 of them are disconnected. The New York metro area falls between Baltimore and Los Angeles in terms of the rate of youth disconnection.

Youth Disconnection by Race and Ethnicity

Disaggregated by racial and ethnic group, the youth disconnection rate for the New York metro area depicts an unfortunate reality of inequity. While the proportion of youth neither working nor in school in this region is lower for whites and Asian Americans than for those groups nationwide, both African Americans and Latinos are more likely to be unconnected than their national counterparts. This difference is most pronounced for white youth, for whom the disconnection rate in the New York area is 1.9 percentage points less than for the rest of the US. These values reveal shocking facts; the population of disconnected African American and Latino youth in the New York metro area is equal to the entire populace of Madison, Wisconsin.

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



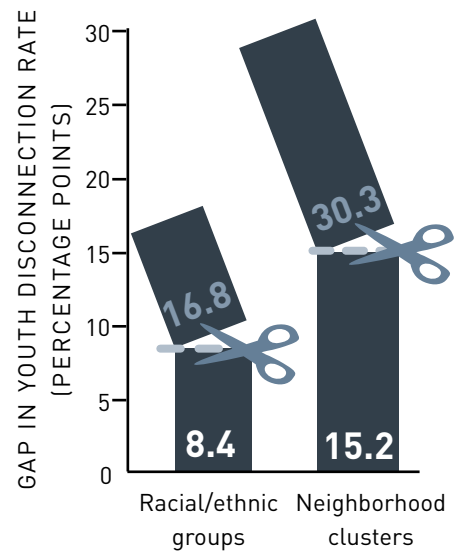
Youth Disconnection by Gender

With the largest population of youth of any major city in America, the stakes are high in the Big Apple and the surrounding metro area. Roughly 160,000 young women and 190,000 young men are engaged with neither school nor work. The gender difference among disconnected youth in the New York metro area mirrors that of the national trend: young men have higher rates than young women. But the gap is wider in the Big Apple than elsewhere: 13.6 percent of young women as compared to 15.4 percent of males between the ages of 16 and 24. The rate for women is a bit better than the national average; for men, it is worse.

Youth Disconnection by Neighborhood

The New York metro area is made up of 141 neighborhood clusters. New York ties with the Windy City in terms of the largest range of youth disconnection rates between neighborhood clusters, a striking difference of 30.3 percentage points between the 34.8 percent rate of youth disconnection in the Melrose, Mott Haven, Port Morris, Longwood, and Hunts Point neighborhoods in the South Bronx and the 4.5 percent rate found in the Long Island communities of Stony Brook, Setauket, and Rocky Point. These South Bronx neighborhoods suffer from the second highest rate of youth disconnection among all of the neighborhood clusters within the twenty-five largest metro areas; only a single neighborhood cluster in Detroit has a greater proportion of youth out of work and out of school. Reflecting nationwide trends, this area of the Bronx also suffers from high poverty and low levels of adult educational attainment. More than half of all children in these neighborhoods live in poverty, and nearly half of all adults never finished high school.

Halve the Gap in New York



Most Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Stony Brook, Setauket, and Rocky Point, Suffolk County, NY	4.5
West Village, Greenwich Village, SoHo, Tribeca, and Financial District, Manhattan, NY	4.6
Bethpage, Hicksville, and Plainview, Nassau County, NY	5.1

Least Connected Neighborhood Clusters

NEIGHBORHOOD	RATE OF YOUTH DISCONNECTION (%)
Paterson, NJ	29.6
Ironbound, Broadway, and Forest Hill, Newark, NJ	31.3
Melrose, Mott Haven, Port Morris, Longwood, and Hunts Point, South Bronx, NY	34.8