



San Diego  
**Workforce**  
Partnership



# New Data on Youth Disconnection: State of Opportunity Youth in San Diego County

March 28, 2019

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Opportunity youth are a vital but as yet untapped source of intellectual energy, cultural vitality, and innovation.

— Melody Barnes, Former Domestic Policy Advisor, NYU Vice Provost

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# *Plan for the Webinar*

- **Opportunity Youth: Progress at the National Level**
- **“Cut the Rate” and “Halve the Gap”:  
How are we doing?**
- **Upcoming Opportunity Summit  
(May 2)**

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If one is lucky,  
a solitary **fantasy**  
can totally **transform**  
one **million** realities.

- *Maya Angelou*

**CUT THE RATE**  
**7.3% by 2020**

**HALVE THE GAP**  
**4.4% by 2020**



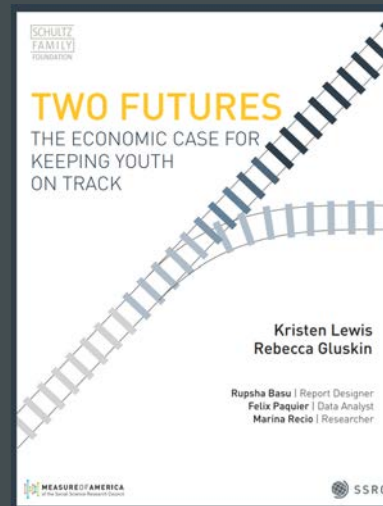
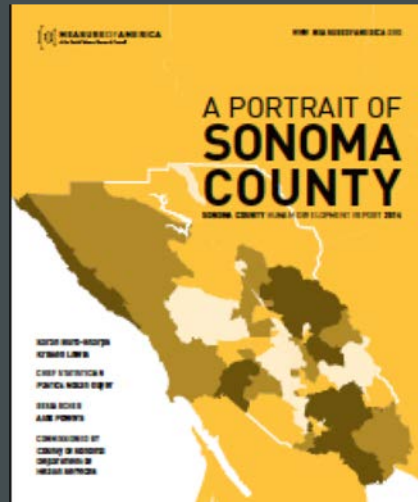
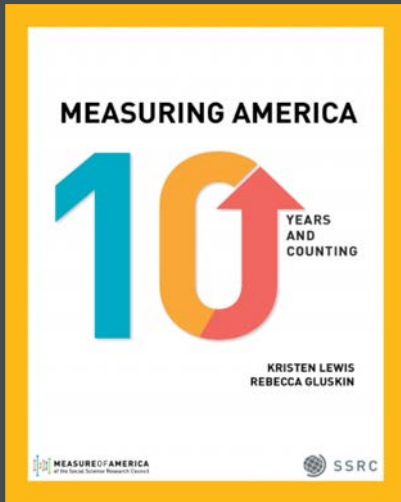
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# Opportunity Youth: Progress and New Insights



Kristen Lewis  
Co-Director, Measure of America  
[@MOA\\_org](https://twitter.com/MOA_org)

[#OpportunitySD](https://twitter.com/hashtag/OpportunitySD)

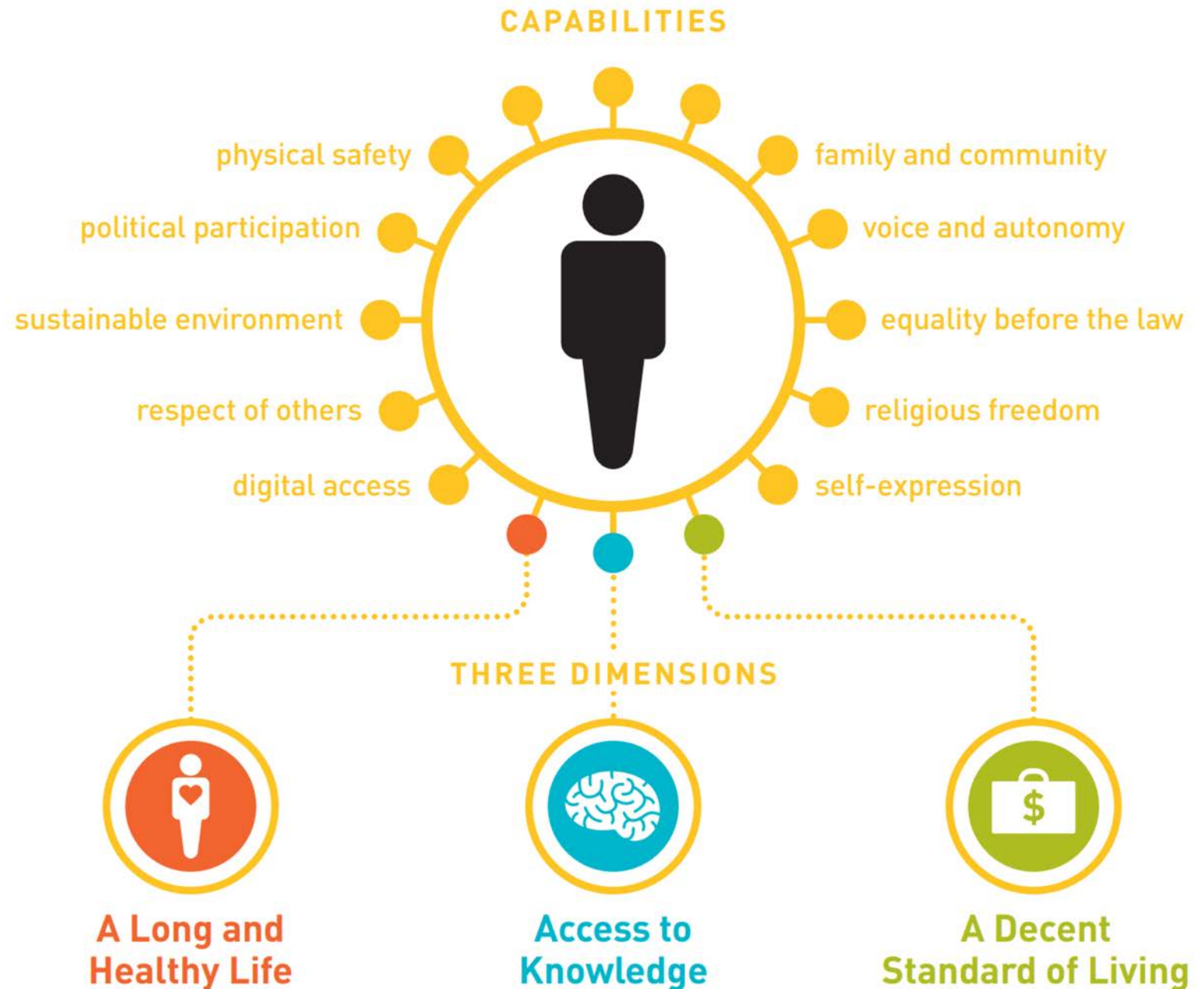


**Measure of America**, a nonpartisan project of the nonprofit Social Science Research Council, provides easy-to-use yet methodologically sound tools for understanding **well-being and opportunity** in America.

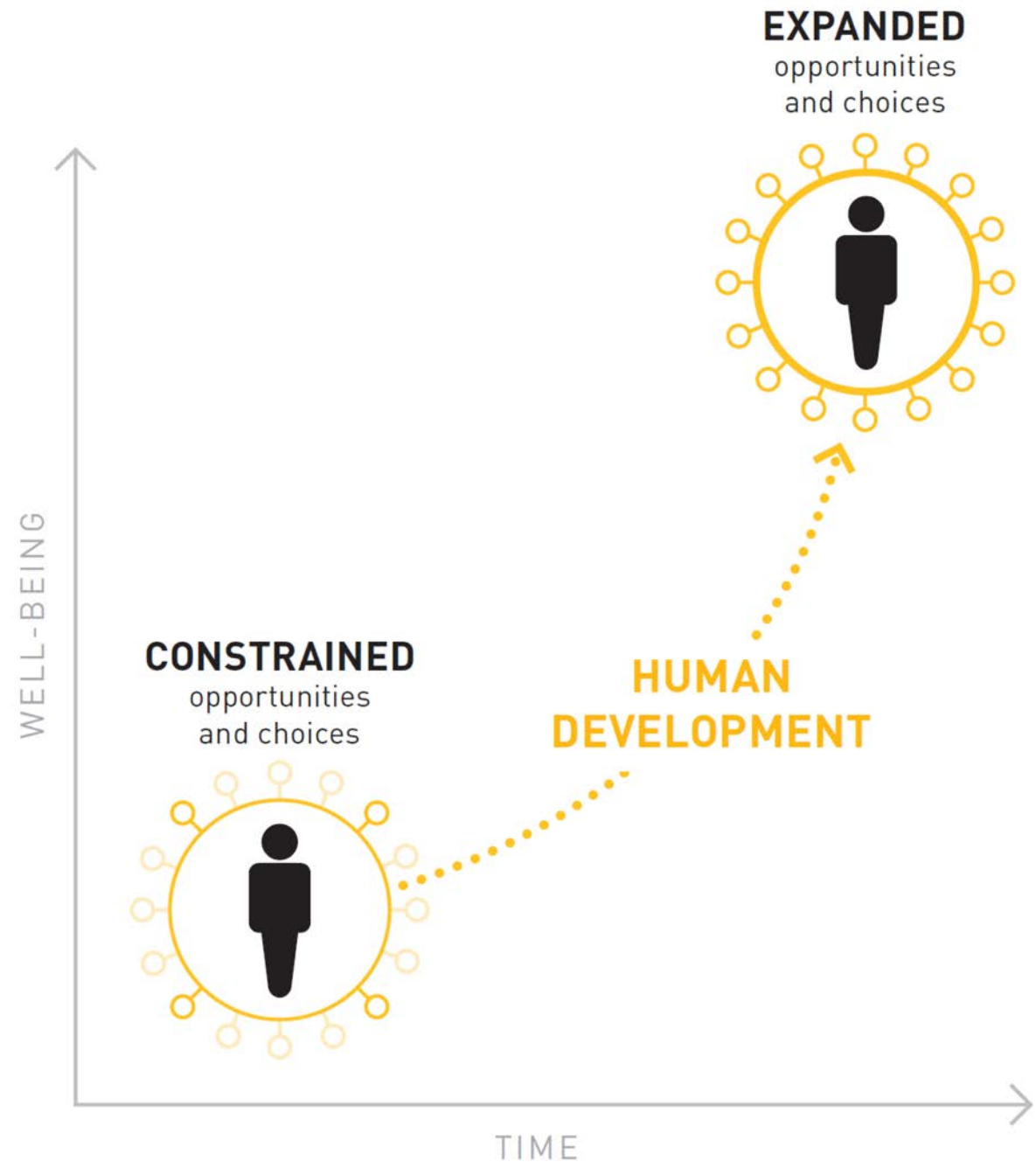
- Create metrics focused on how **people** are doing. A leading indicator of societal progress is how young people are faring in their transition to adulthood.
- Rooted in the **human development** and capabilities approach.

# Human development: How do we measure it?

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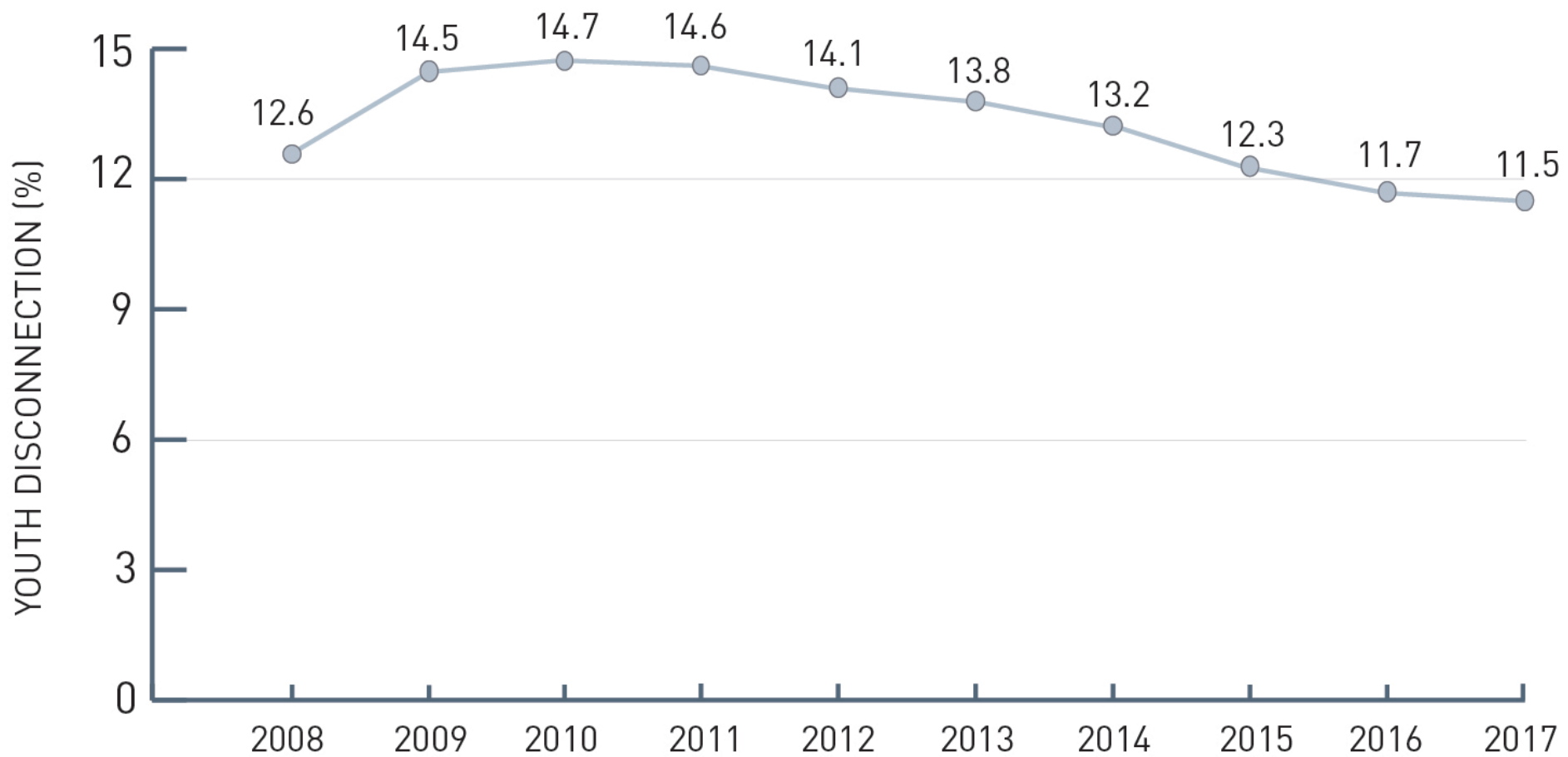


# Disconnection: A human development issue



## The good news:

# National youth disconnection continues to decline!



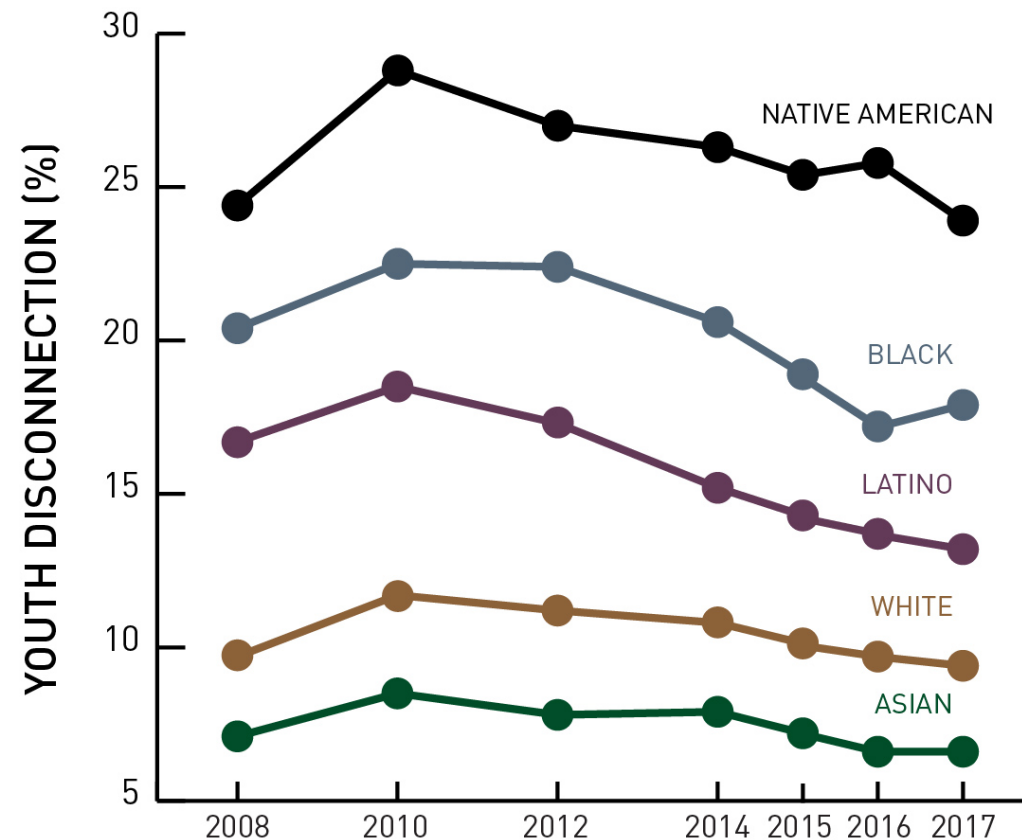
Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau American Community Survey 2017.

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# The bad news:

## The black youth disconnection rate increased

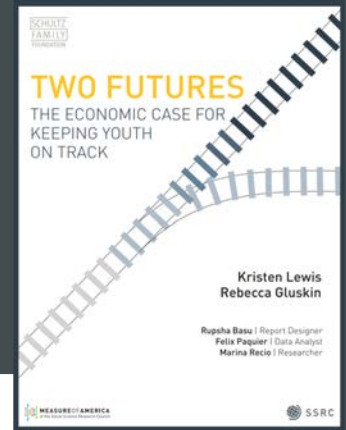
This is the first time any racial group has seen a significant increase since 2010



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# REPERCUSSIONS ARE CUMULATIVE

Strikingly divergent paths after 15 years



	After roughly 14 years, compared to young people who experienced youth disconnection, those who remained connected:
<b>INCOME</b>	Earn \$31,000 more
<b>HOMEOWNERSHIP</b>	Are 45% more likely to own a home
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>	Are 42% more likely to be employed
<b>SELF-REPORTED GOOD HEALTH</b>	Are 52% more likely to report excellent or good health

# Cut the rate and halve the gap goals:

## *What's the latest?*

Laura Kohn  
San Diego Workforce Partnership  
@sdworkforce  
@laurakohnlaura



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# 36,853

OF 16–24-YEAR-OLDS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
ARE DISCONNECTED FROM WORK AND SCHOOL,  
DOWN FROM 43,210 (IN 2015)

# 8.6%

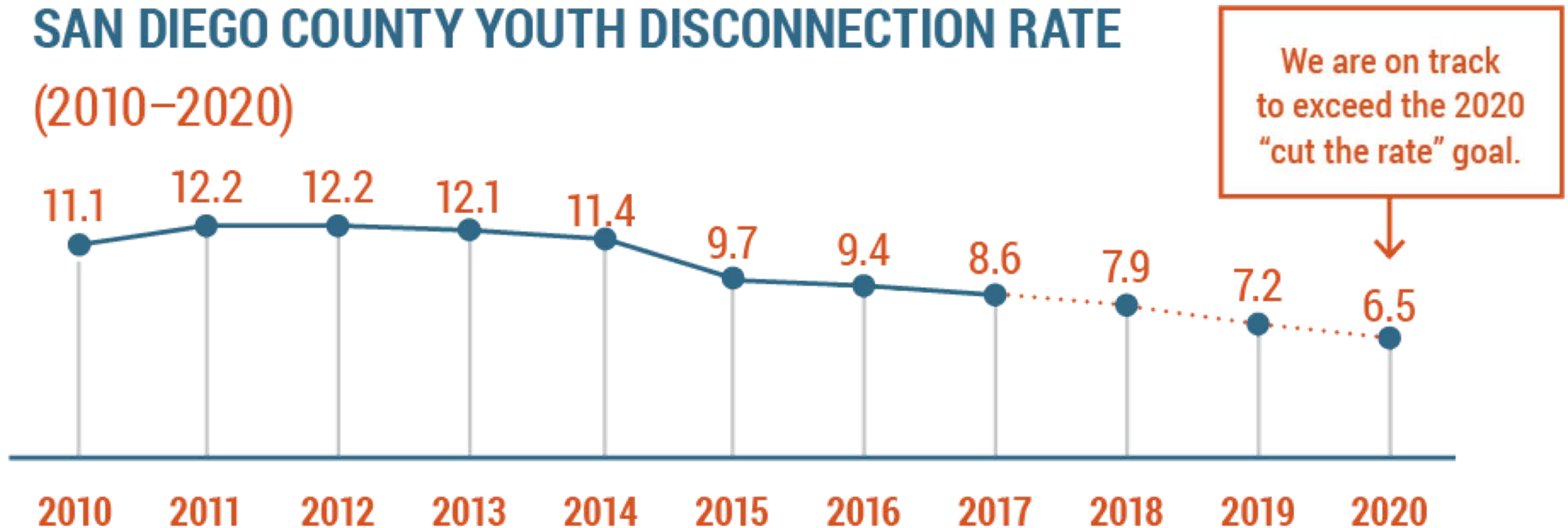
OF YOUTH ARE DISCONNECTED,  
DOWN FROM 9.7% A YEAR AGO

## Newest Data

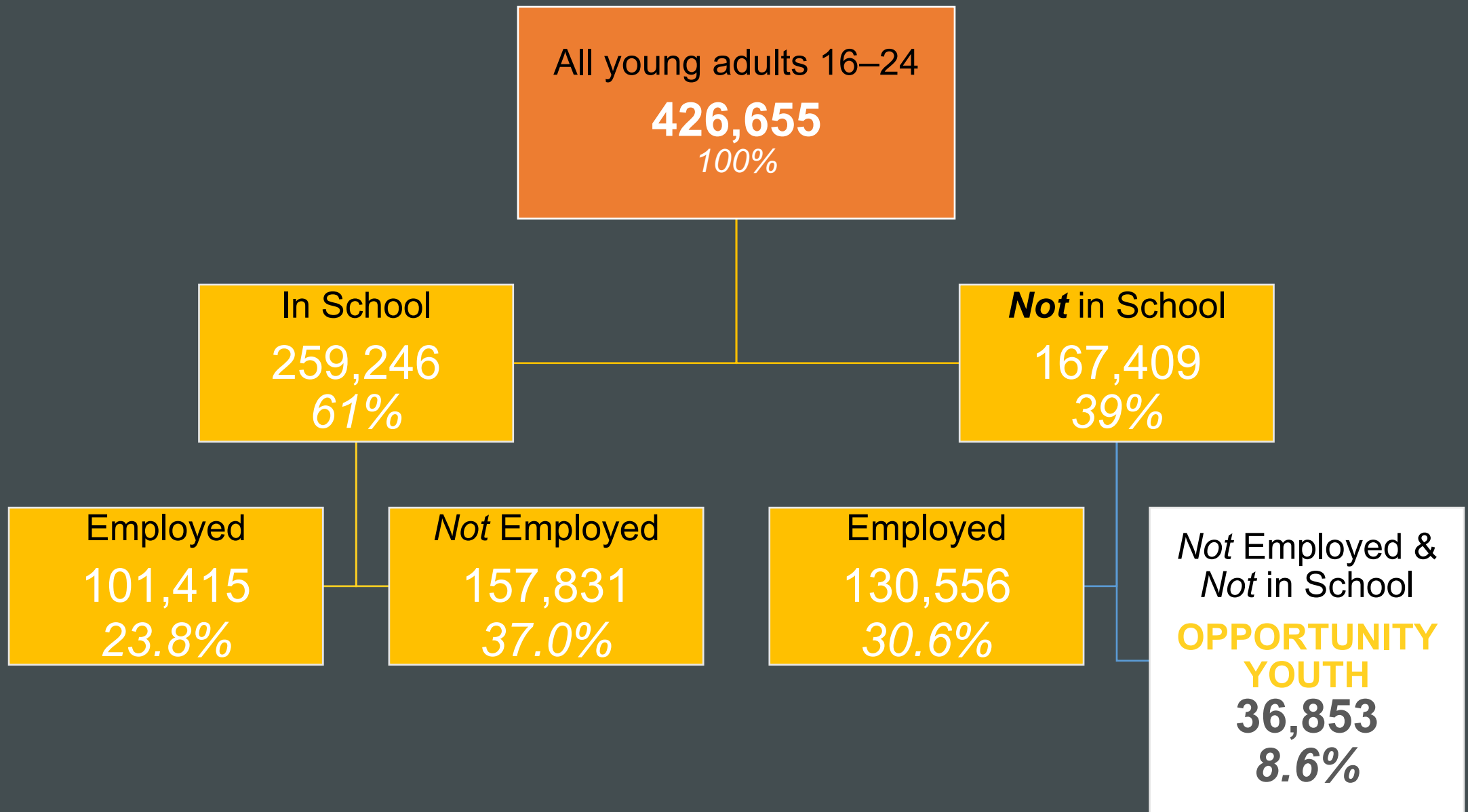
# CUT THE RATE

An update on our region-wide progress to reduce the percentage of 16–24-year-olds not in school and not working to 7.3% or lower by the year 2020.

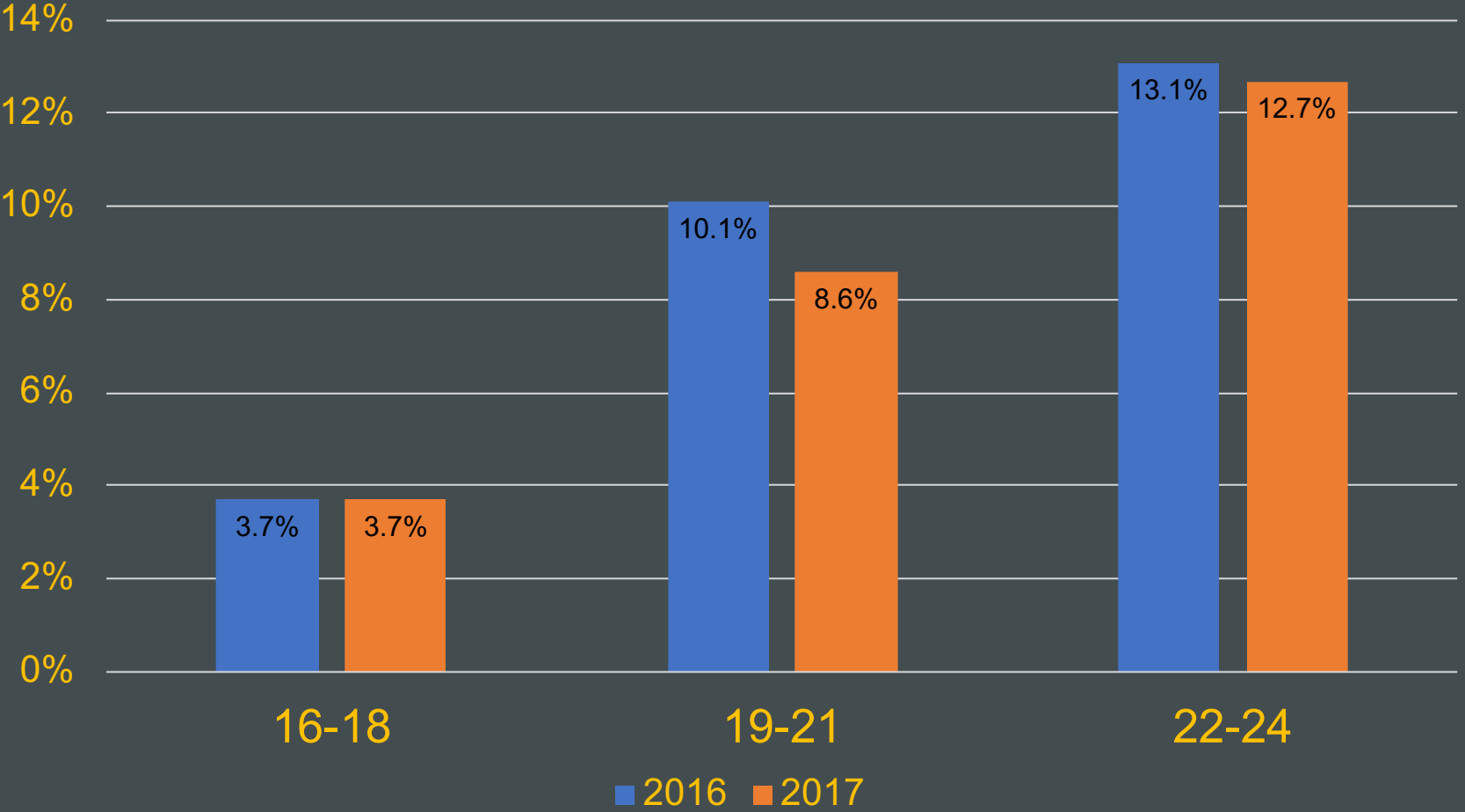
## SAN DIEGO COUNTY YOUTH DISCONNECTION RATE (2010–2020)



Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau, American Community Survey



# San Diego County Youth Disconnection by Age



Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau American Community Survey.

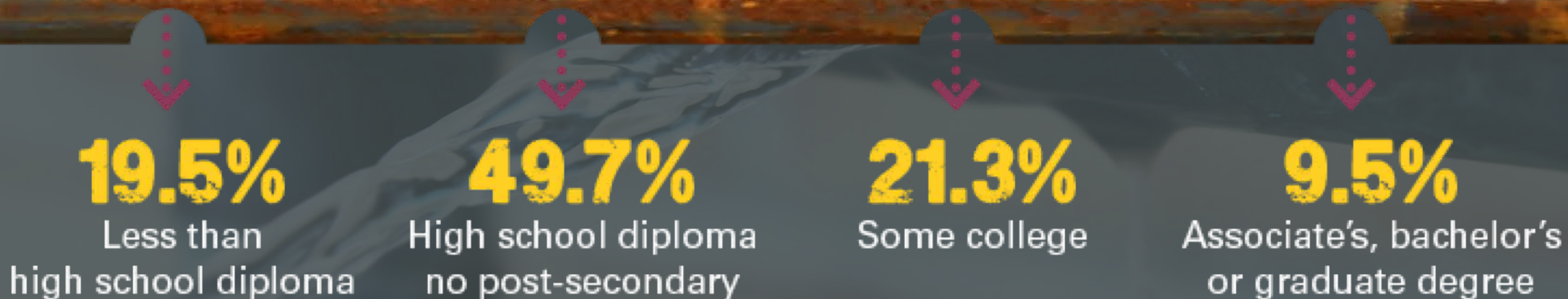
# The Big 3:

## Indicators of youth disconnection in San Diego County

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# ① A leaky pipe

(Disconnection in the education system)



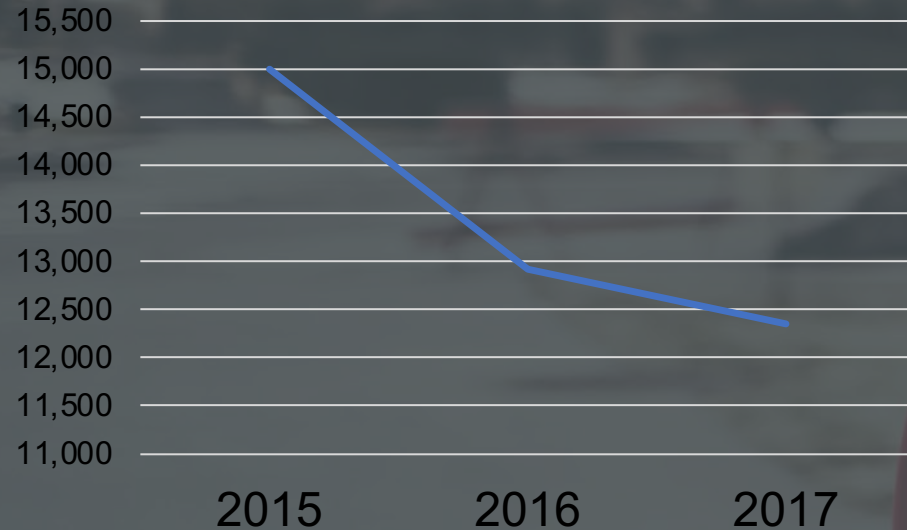
Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau American Community Survey.

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# ② Last in, first out

Youth unemployment  
*(want to work, looking for work)*

Unemployed Disconnected  
Youth



4,492 worked in past year

+ 7,861 last worked >1 year ago  
or never

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12,353 Unemployed OY

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# 3 Benched

(Labor force participation)

24,500

opportunity youth are not  
actively looking for work.

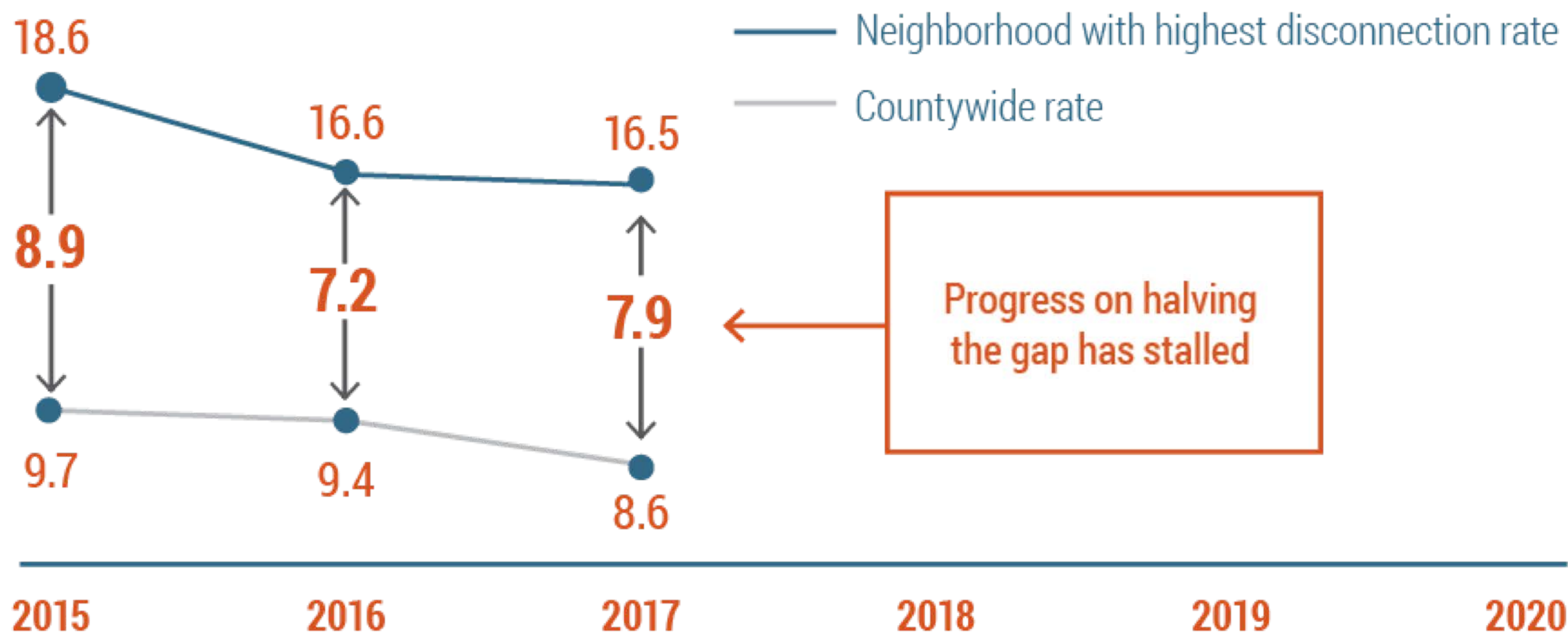
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# HALVE THE GAP

By 2020, no neighborhood should be more than 4.4% above the county-wide disconnection rate. This would “halve the gap” between the area with the highest rate and the county average, focusing efforts and resources on underserved communities.

## ADDRESSING NEIGHBORHOOD DISPARITIES



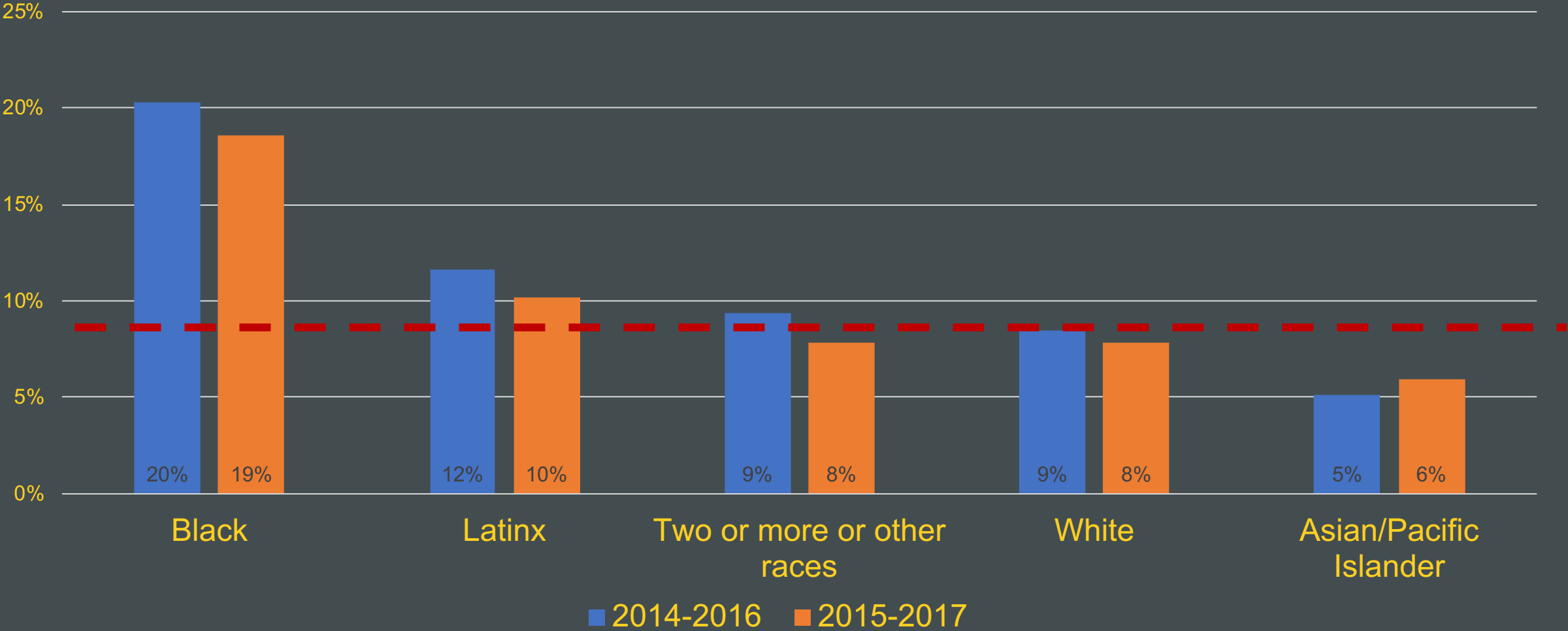
Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

# Big Differences by Neighborhood

San Diego County Sub-Regions (Areas defined by ACS Data)		2015 OY Rate	2016 OY Rate	2017 OY Rate	2017 Gap (Sub-Region vs. County)
South/Otay Mesa & South Bay	★	13.6%	15.8%	16.5%	7.9%
Fallbrook, Alpine, Valley Center	★	18.0%	16.6%	15.1%	6.5%
Southeastern San Diego/Encanto, Skyline		14.4%	14.4%	14.1%	5.5%
Chula Vista (West), National City		13.3%	12.1%	14.1%	5.5%
Vista	★	18.6%	15.1%	13.4%	4.8%
Lemon Grove, La Presa, Spring Valley	★	17.2%	14.0%	13.2%	4.6%
El Cajon, Santee	★	15.5%	13.9%	12.7%	4.1%
San Diego East & La Mesa		11.8%	10.5%	11.8%	3.2%
Escondido (East)	★	15.5%	11.6%	9.3%	0.7%
San Diego Center City & Balboa Park*	★	13.4%	10.6%	8.1%	-0.5%
San Diego Central & Mid-City		9.2%	8.2%	6.6%	-2.0%
Oceanside & Camp Pendleton*	★	9.4%	8.7%	6.5%	-2.1%
<b>San Diego County Average/Total</b>		<b>9.7%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>--</b>

★ = big decline in OY rate   ★ = big increase in OY rate

# San Diego Opportunity Youth Rate by Race/Ethnicity



Source: Measure of America calculations using US Census Bureau American Community Survey (2015–2017) — rolling average used due to small sample size for black youth and youth from two or more or other races.

# Questions?

## Use the chat box!

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Join the conversation: #53kreasons

SAN DIEGO  
WORKFORCE  
PARTNERSHIP

CONNECT  
careers

YDO  
SAN DIEGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

JACOBS  
CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD INNOVATION

# Thanks!

See you May 2:

[opportunitysd.org/summit19](http://opportunitysd.org/summit19)