

# DEEPER DIVE: SHARE OF POPULATION AGE 16-24 NEITHER EMPLOYED NOR ENROLLED IN SCHOOL

## Overview

Tampa Bay's share of population age 16-24 neither employed nor enrolled in school ranks 17 out of 20 among our competitive set; overall, 12.18 percent of this age group is "disconnected" from traditional settings – the classroom and the workplace – that would foster skill development and economic prosperity.

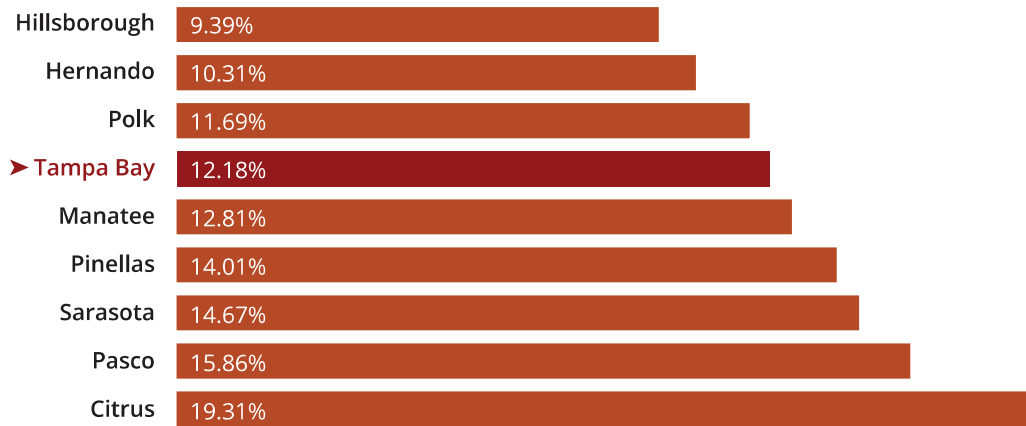
## Regional Performance

Within the communities of Tampa Bay, distinctions in the share of disconnected youth are apparent. Although Hillsborough County is home to the largest number of disconnected youth within the eight-county region (more than 15,000), the share of that age group neither employed nor enrolled in school, at 9.4 percent, is the lowest within Tampa Bay. At the other end of the spectrum, Citrus County's disconnected youth rate of 19.3 percent is 58 percent greater than the regional average.

Among racial and ethnic groups, there is some variation in the rates of disconnected youth, but less pronounced than the geographic distribution. Among the population age 16-24, whites are less likely to be disconnected (11.73 percent) than their non-white counterparts (13.46 percent). Along ethnic lines, the Hispanic population age 16-24 is only slightly more likely to neither be employed nor enrolled in school (12.67 percent) than their non-Hispanic counterparts (12.01 percent).

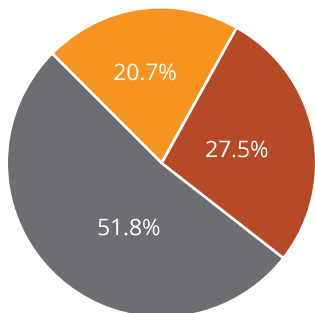
Among older disconnected youth age 19-24, the educational attainment of the majority share of these residents (51.8 percent) is a high school diploma or equivalency. When combined with disconnected youth age 19-24 who have less than a high school diploma or equivalency, the share rises to nearly 80 percent, which is significantly higher than that of all residents age 19-24 with a high school diploma or less. This may suggest that economic opportunities in the Tampa Bay region at the high school or lower level of attainment are either not appealing, not plentiful, or both.

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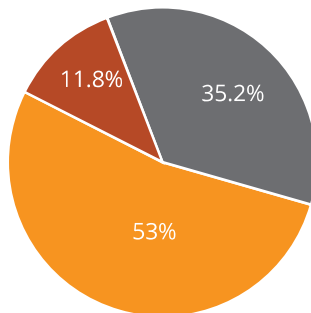


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF TAMPA BAY RESIDENTS AGE 19-24

"Disconnected" Residents Age 19-24



All Residents Age 19-24



■ Less than HS or GED   ■ HS or GED   ■ More than HS or GED

## Key Takeaways

- Shares of disconnected youth vary widely across the region.
- Non-Whites and Non-Hispanics age 16-24 exhibit a greater likelihood of being disconnected.
- Among the population age 19-24, the vast majority of those that are disconnected have not pursued any formal education beyond high school (diploma or equivalency).