



DATAPOST

Labor Force Participation Rates

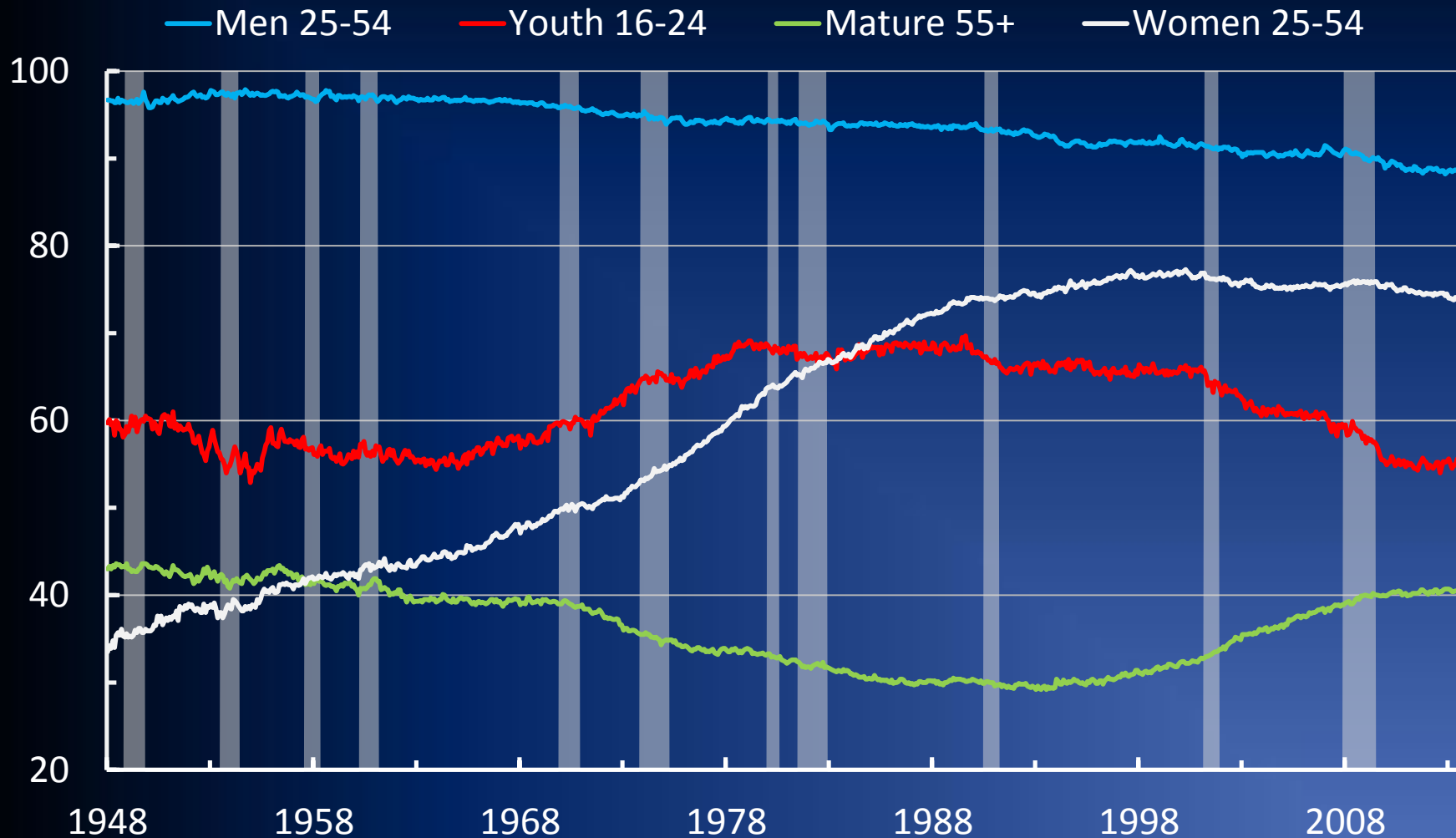
Measuring workforce engagement

Date last updated: September 9, 2013

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Economic Education Group

Labor Force Participation Rates

Monthly percentage values, seasonally adjusted, through August 2013



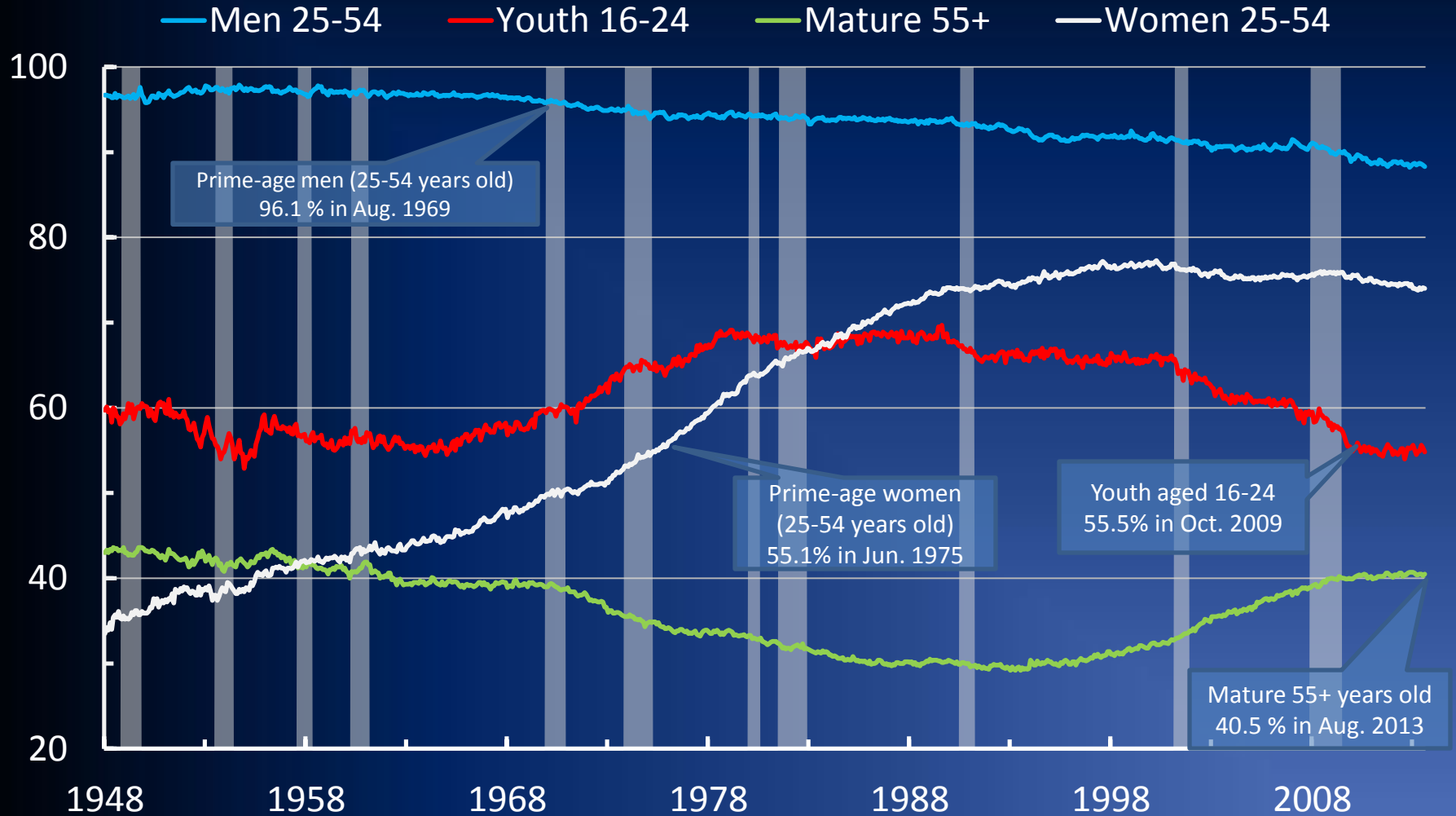
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Annotated Chart Notes

Labor Force Participation Rates

The percentage of the age 16+ population (within each subgroup shown) working or actively looking for work

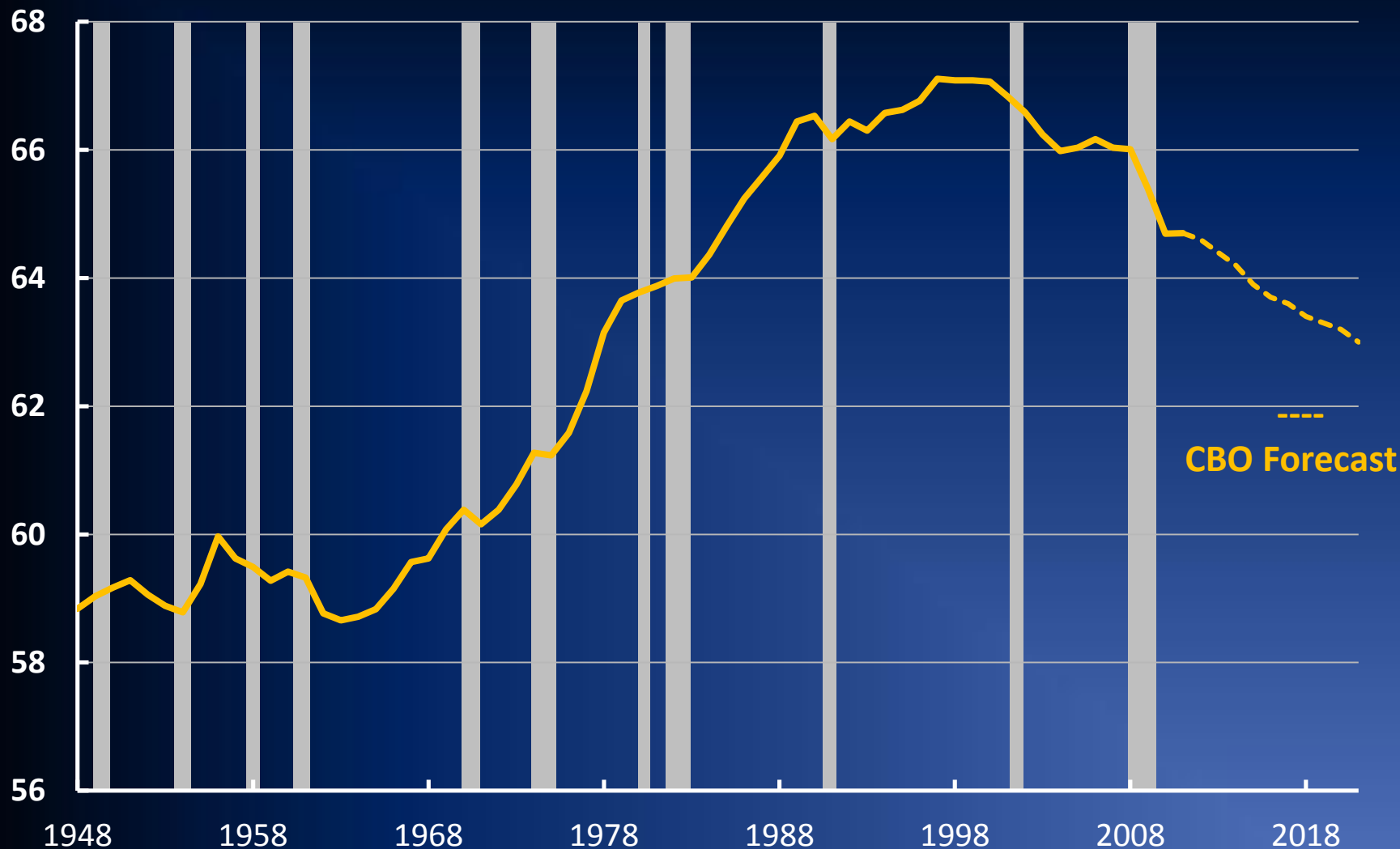
Monthly percentage values, seasonally adjusted, through August 2013



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Overall Labor Force Participation Rate

Yearly averages of monthly values* (Percent)



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics & Congressional Budget Office

*Labor force participation rate is through 2011 based on CBO forecast availability

2015
43.32%

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<http://www.frbsf.org/education/teachers/datapost/index.html>

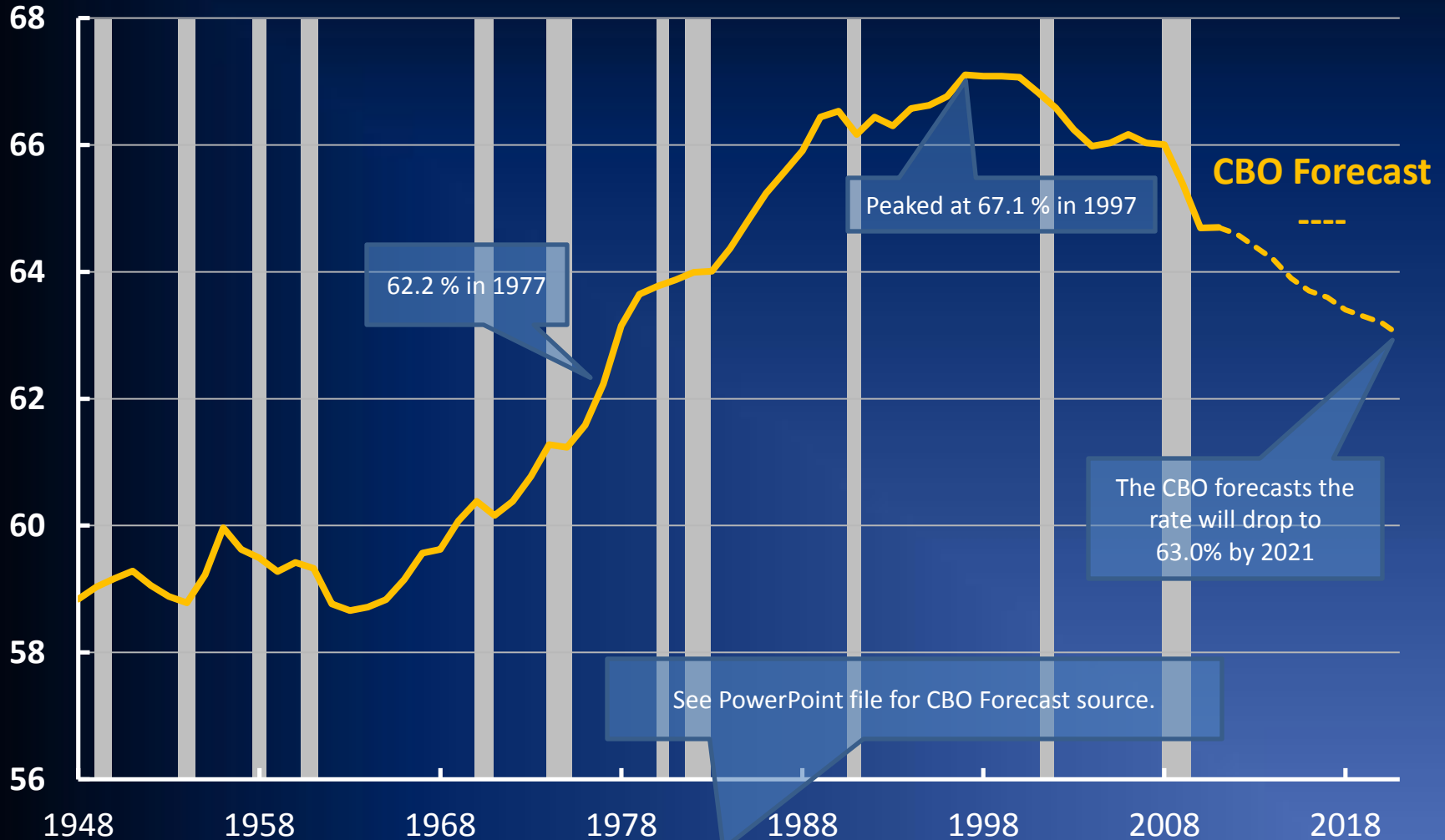
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Annotated Chart Notes

Overall Labor Force Participation Rate

The fraction of the age 16+ population working or actively looking for work

Yearly averages of monthly values* (Percent)



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics & Congressional Budget Office

*Labor force participation rate is through 2011 based on CBO forecast availability

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What Do You Think?

1. What is the labor force participation (LFP) rate definition? (See slide 5)
2. To which demographic group do you belong? In January 2008, what was the approximate value of the LFP rate for your group? (See slide 2)
3. For the periods shown in the LFP rate chart by subgroup, what can you say about the trend for participation among men aged 25-54? Women aged 25-54? Youth aged 16-24? (See slide 3)
4. How would you describe the trend in the overall LFP rate since January 1998? (See slide 4)
5. How does the trend in the LFP rate mature 55+ subgroup compare before and after the Great Recession (Dec. 2007 – Jun. 2009)? (See slide 3)

Watch a video about U.S. labor force participation rates at [FRBSF.org](http://www.frbsf.org)