#### What is the natural unemployment rate?

Monthly Unemployment Rates, United States, Jan. 1948- Oct. 2011

Series Id: LNS14000000

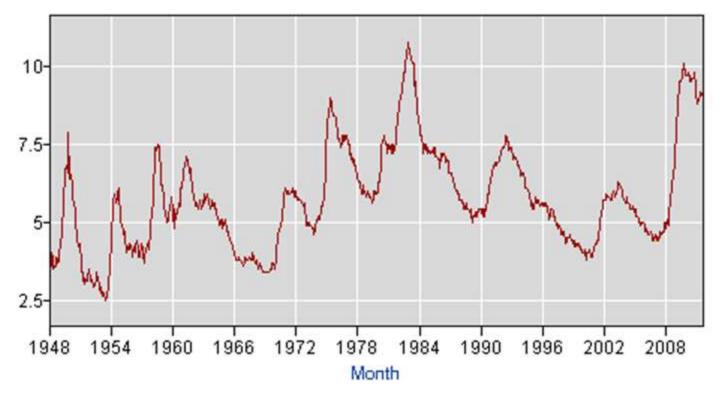
Seasonally Adjusted

Series title: (Seas) Unemployment Rate

Labor force status: Unemployment rate

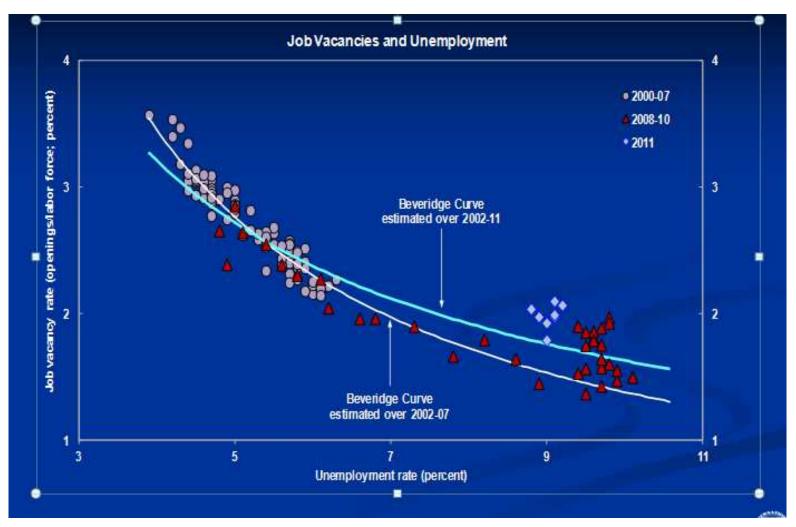
Type of data: Percent or rate

Age: 16 years and over



#### Has the Beveridge Curve shifted?

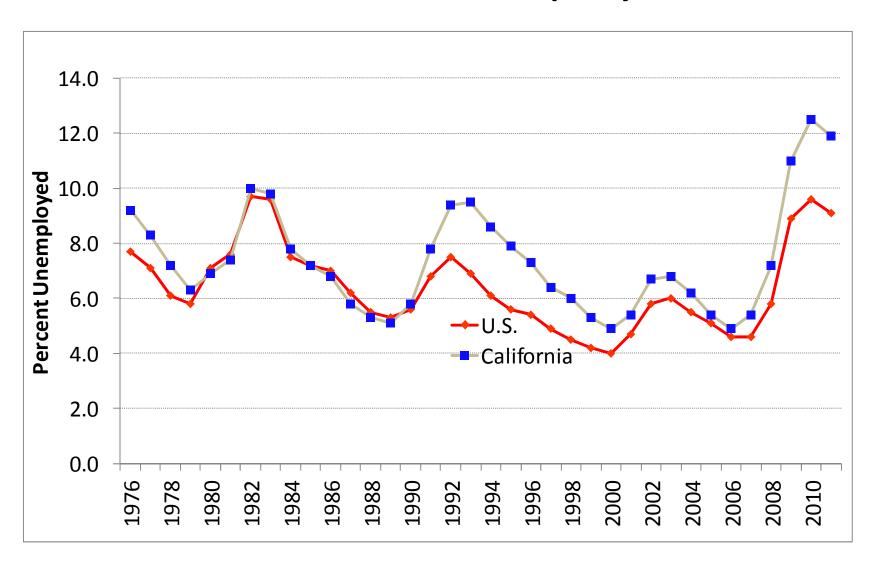
#### Signs that structural unemployment has gone up



# California perspective confirms both the mobility and skills arguments

- Relationship between domestic migration and unemployment rate has shifted
  - In previous downturns, California has experienced massive net out-migration
  - In this downturn, out-migration has been modest
- PPIC projections suggest a growing mismatch between jobs and educational attainment

### California and US unemployment rates



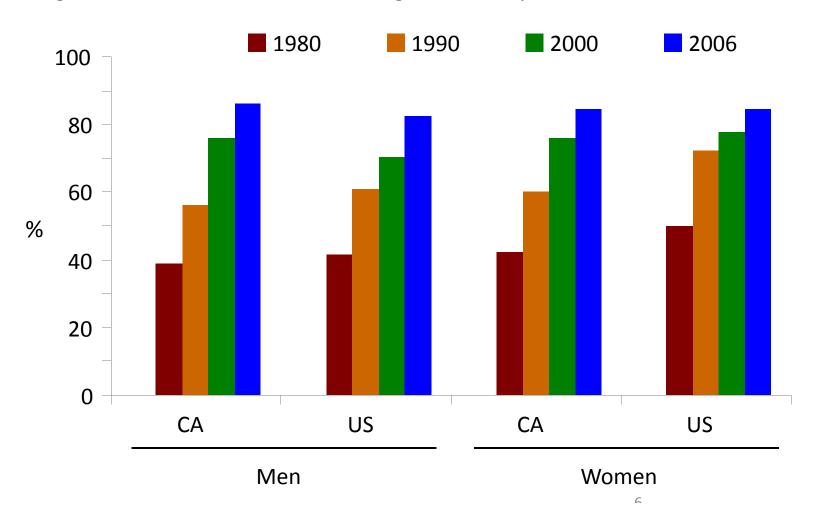
### California Faces a Skills Gap

#### If current trends continue:

- California's economy will demand more highly educated workers
  - By 2025, 41% of jobs will require a bachelor's degree
- Population will not supply enough college graduates to meet projected needs
  - By 2025, 35% of California adults will have a bachelor's degree
- Shortfall of 1 million college graduates

## College Wage Premium Has Increased Since 1980

Percentage Difference in Average Hourly Wage, Worker with a Bachelor's Degree Relative to Worker with a High School Diploma

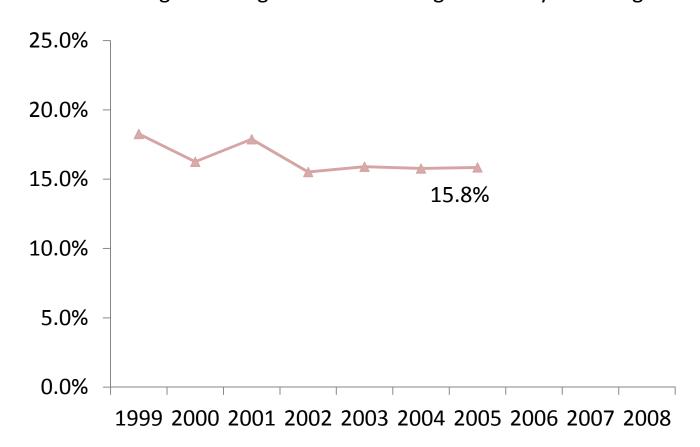


# Role of community colleges in addressing workforce skills

- Vast majority of college students are in public community colleges (64% of enrollment in CA)
- But completion rates (certificates, degrees, transfers) are very low
- Reforms are necessary
  - More effective use of data
  - Funding
  - Advising
  - Links with employers and four year colleges
  - Consumer (student) information

## One example of what works: Early college commitment programs

Sweetwater Union: Share of high school graduates enrolling in a four-year college



### One example of what works: Early college commitment programs

Sweetwater Union: Share of high school graduates enrolling in a four-year college

