Economics in Person Viewing Guide - 1

The U.S. Labor Market and the Great Recession

- 1. (0:38) How many jobs were lost from the peak of employment in 2008 to the bottom of employment in mid-2009?
- 2. (1:35) Mary describes job losses during the Great Recession as "broad-based." What does this mean?
- 3. (2:11) In the skill distribution discussion, which groups experienced unemployment double during the Great Recession? What is it about college-educated workers that Mary characterizes as historic?
- 4. (3:57) How many weeks of not working does it take to be counted as "long-term unemployed"? How many months?
- 5. Name the four labor market factors that distinguish the Great Recession?
- 6. Of the four distinguishing characteristics that Mary describes in the video, which one do you think is the biggest challenge facing policymakers and why?