

FRBSF Flipped Classroom Content
Will the Unemployment Rate Stall in 2013?

Student Instructions

Title: Will the Unemployment Rate Stall in 2013?
Content Source: *Economics in Person* video
Length: 5:25
Keywords: Unemployment, Unemployment Rate, Discouraged Workers, Labor Markets

Introduction:

Use this video clip to deepen your understanding of the unemployment rate and why changes in job seeking behavior are critical both to the health of the economy and for policymakers at the Federal Reserve.

Learning Objectives: After watching the video, you will be able to

- Identify a discouraged worker
- Explain the impact of discouraged workers on the unemployment rate
- Link the behavior of discouraged workers to monetary policy considerations

Viewing Instructions:

1. Complete the viewing guide questions while you view the video
2. Use the suggested timing to **pause** the video and answer each question

Post-Viewing Instructions:

1. Create two new questions not covered in the viewing guide and be prepared to discuss in class
2. Save or print out your completed answers to the viewing guide

Video Links – two options

YouTube: [Will the Unemployment Rate Stall in 2013?](#)

FRBSF.org: [Will the Unemployment Rate Stall in 2013?](#)

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Viewing Guide

Respond to the following questions **while watching** this 5:25 minute video. **Pause the video** at the time indicated below to formulate your answer and record your response in the space provided.

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1. (1:02) How are discouraged workers handled in the unemployment rate calculation?
2. (1:33) How many workers lost their jobs during the Great Recession?
3. (2:33) How many more discouraged workers do we have now compared with a few years ago?
4. (3:32) Sketch out the three unemployment rate scenarios described in the chart animation.
5. (4:21) Why is the Federal Reserve so interested in labor market 'slack'?
6. What motivates discouraged workers to return to the labor market?
7. Explain why the return of discouraged workers to the labor market could increase the unemployment rate.