Outcomes for Education and Vocational Training in CalWORKs Before and After the Great Recession

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FOCUS

- **CalWORKs**
- Outcomes related to Los Angeles County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program
- ⇒GAIN offers flexible mix of job search, education, job training, and work activities

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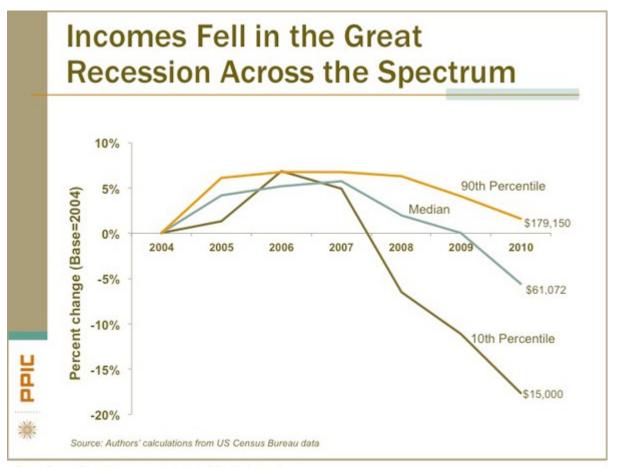
THREE EDUCATION COMPONENTS

- Self-Initiated Program (SIP)
- Remedial education (REM)

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

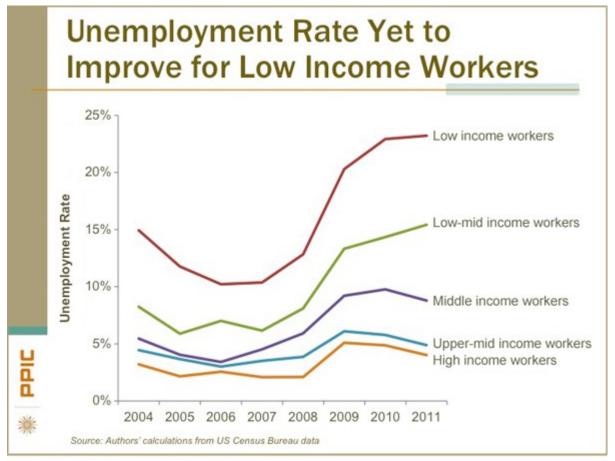
- Are there differences in the participant completion rate for SIP, VOC and REM?
- Are completion rates similar across education providers?
- What are the employment trends before and after ending an of the education component?

THE GREAT RECESSION IN CALIFORNIA



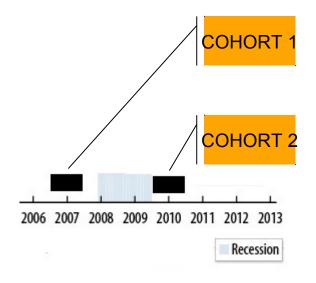
From Sarah Bohn's expert testimony, March 1, 2012

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DESIGN



N=7,903 Ended GAIN Education Component June 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

N=19,971 Ended GAIN Education Component June 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Tracked individuals two years prior to and two years after ending education component

Question 1: Are there differences in the participant completion rates for SIP, VOC and REM?

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS = YES

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VOC +++
REM ++
SIP +
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Pre-Recession ++
Post-Recession +
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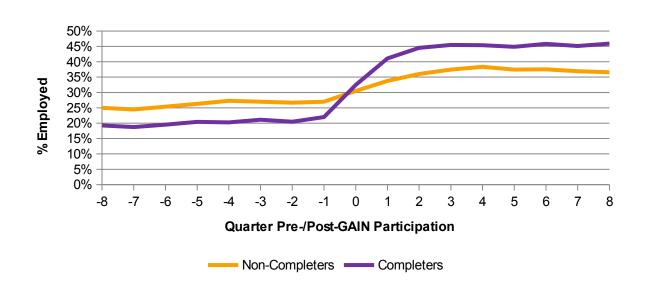
Question 2: Are there differences in completion rates across education providers? YES

- On average 34.7% of participants completed their education component
- Completion rates ranged from 16.2% to 63.6% across education providers

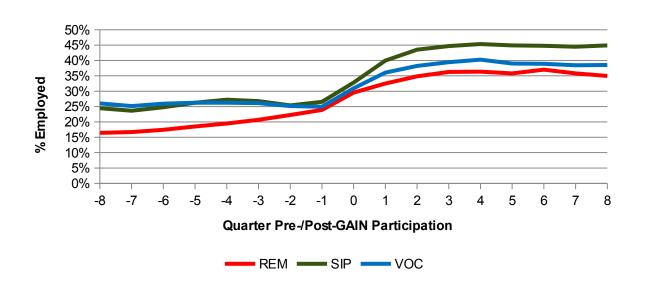




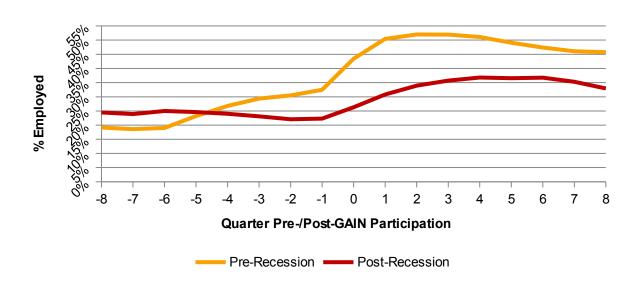
Question 3: What are the employment trends before and after ending an education component?



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CONCLUSION

- Variability in component completion rates by education component
- Variability in component completion rate by education provider
- Across all components, a robust increase in employment following the end of an education component
- This increase was less pronounced following the Great Recession than before it

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