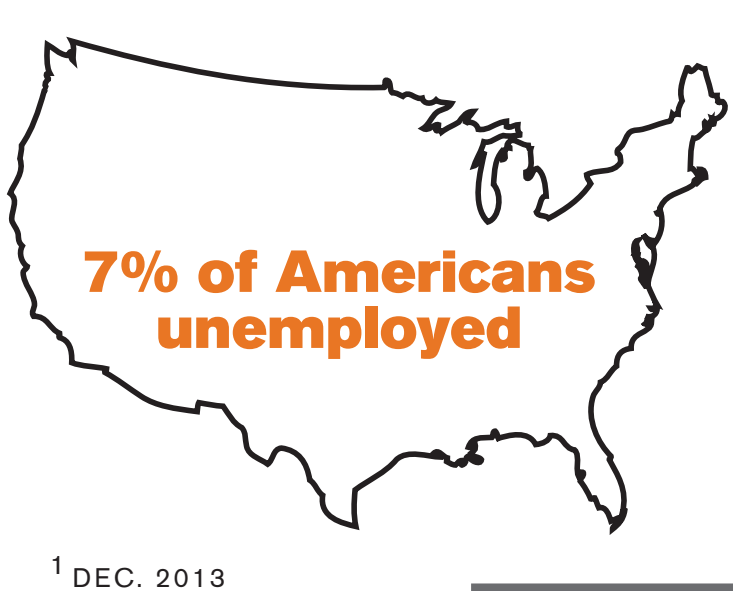


Skills to Pay the Bills

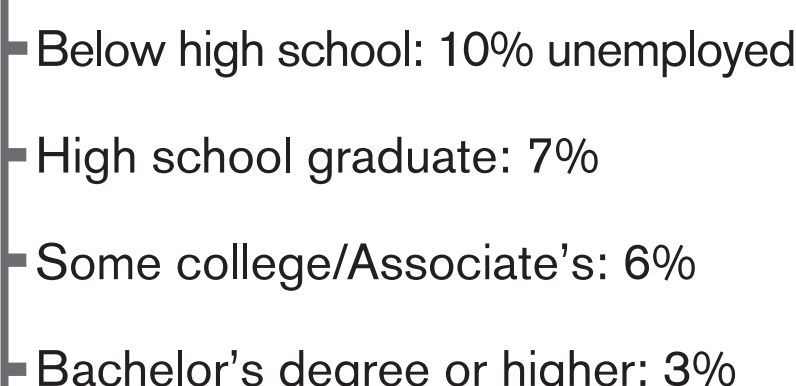
How education and skills relate to employment outcomes

10.4 million American adults are unemployed.¹ People with less education and fewer skills face higher rates of unemployment.



¹ DEC. 2013

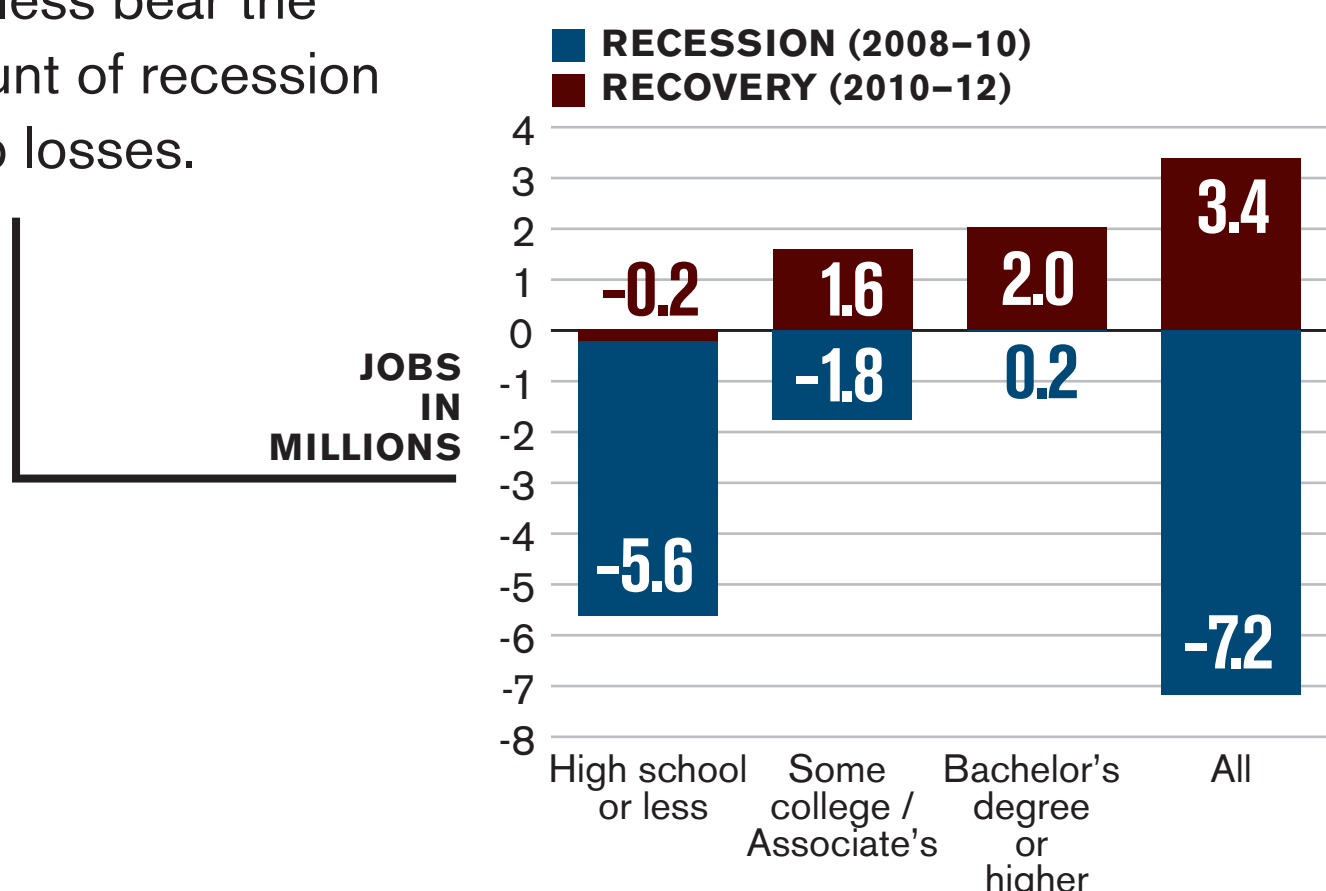
FIGURE 1



How did employment change in the recent recession?

Workers with a high school degree or less bear the brunt of recession job losses.

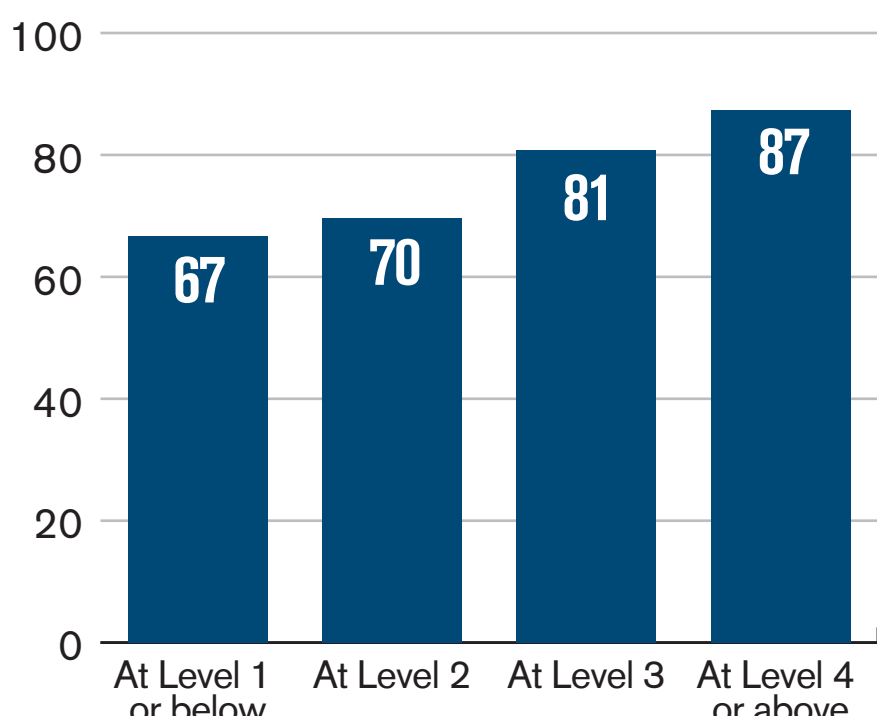
FIGURE 2: CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT, BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: 2008–2012



Skills play a major role

Among those with only a high school degree, those with higher literacy skills are more likely to be employed.

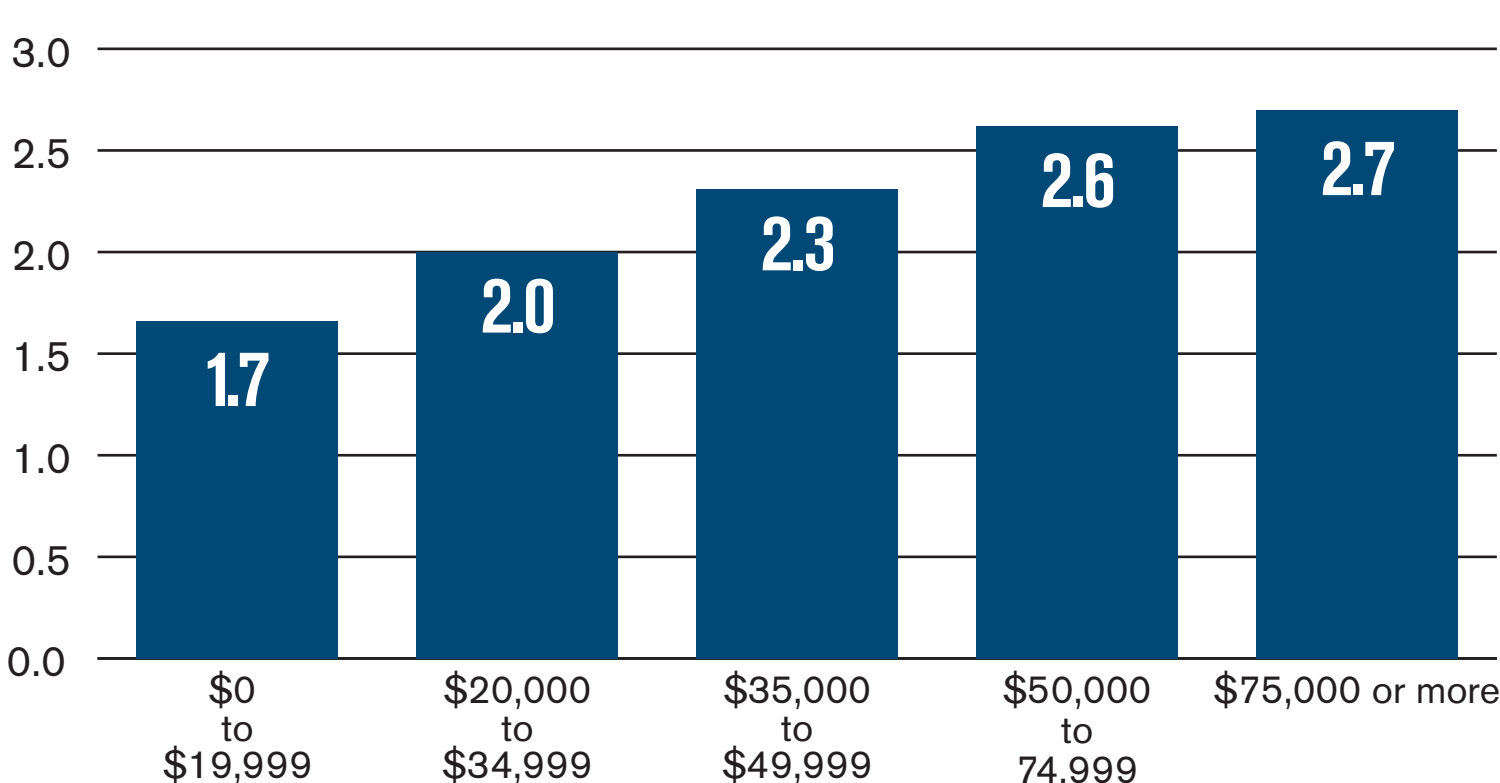
FIGURE 3: PERCENT EMPLOYED, BY PIAAC LITERACY PROFICIENCY LEVELS



Salary and job tenure correlate with reading, math, computer skills

The use of reading, math, and computer skills at work is associated with earning more and having more years of paid work.

FIGURE 4: INDEX OF READING SKILL USE AT WORK, BY INCOME



PIAAC can help inform policies that will help our workforce gain the skills they need to be globally competitive.