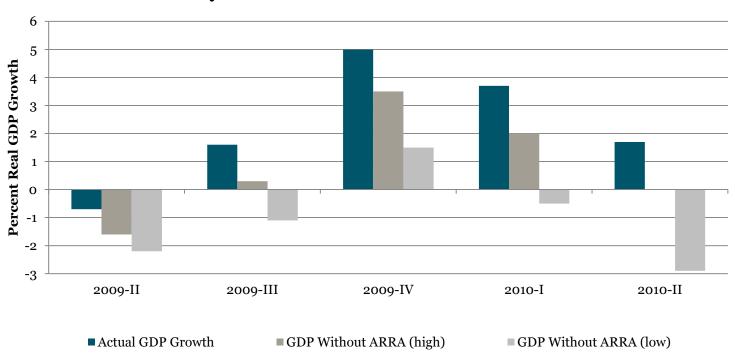
## From Recovery to Reform

Michael Lind New America Foundation

**June 2011** 

## **Drivers of the Recovery: Government Stimulus**

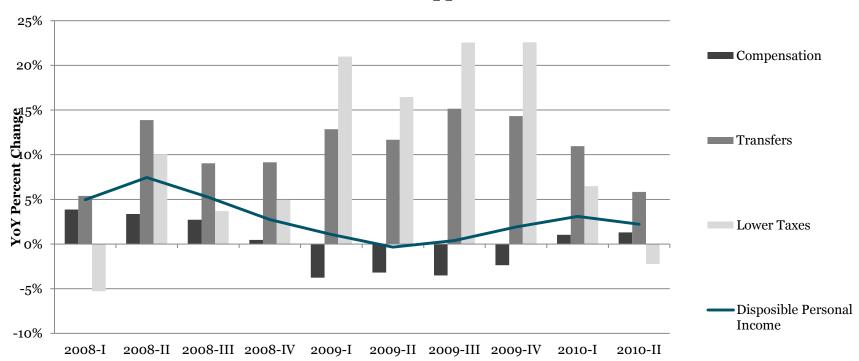
#### **Recovery Act Boosts GDP**



Source: CBO, Council of Economic Advisors

## **Drivers of the Recovery: Government Support for Consumers**

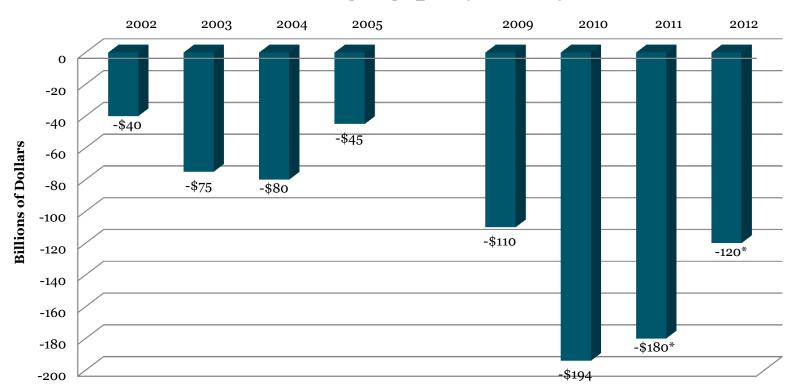
#### **Lower Taxes and Transfers Support Income**



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

### **State Budget Gaps**

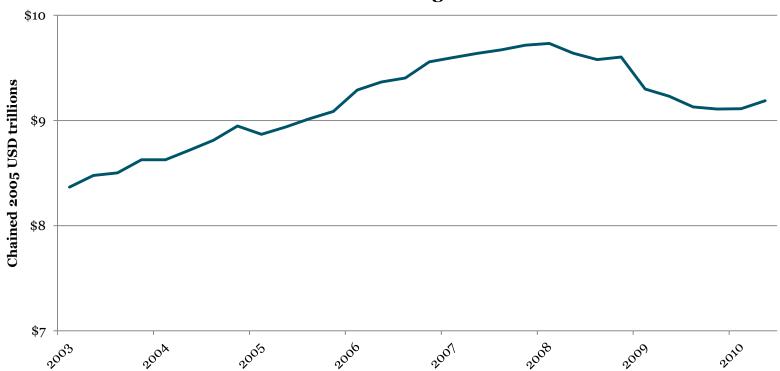
### State Budget gaps by fiscal year



Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2010. \*2011 and 2012 are CBPP estimates

### **Eroding Government Income Support**

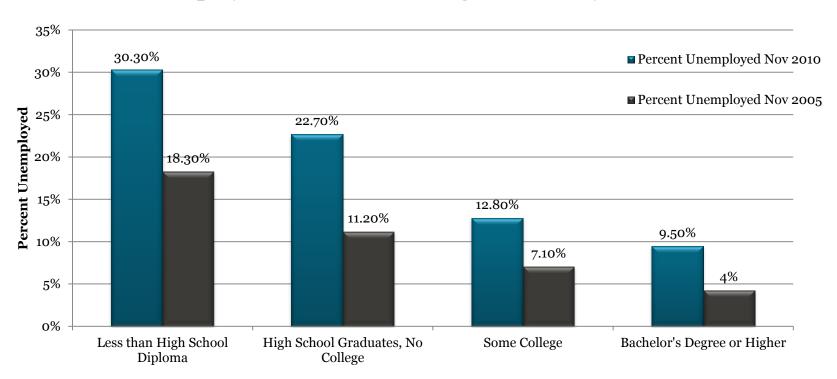
#### **Personal Income Excluding Income Transfers**



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

### **High Youth Unemployment**

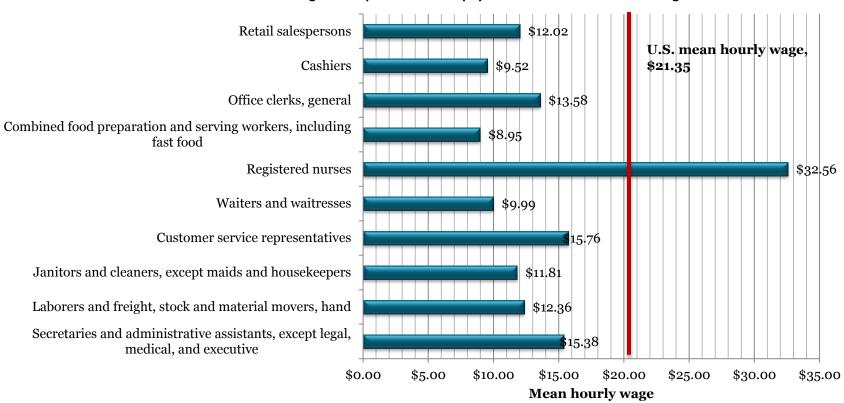
#### **Unemployment Rate for Young Workers by Education Level**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Statistics, CPS, A-16

## Low Wage Present: 9 of 10 largest occupations are low-wage

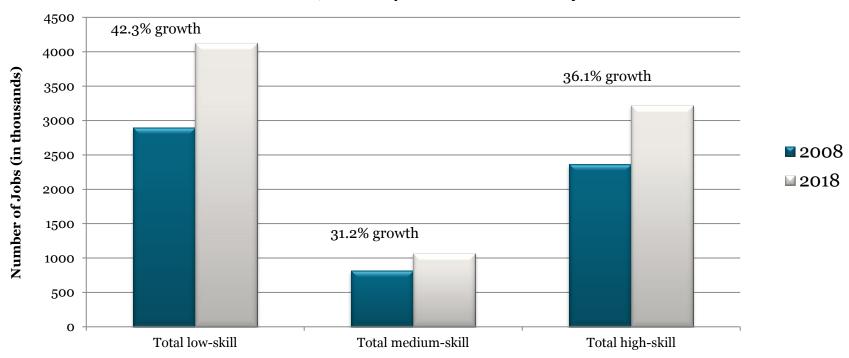
Nine out of ten of the largest occupations in 2010 pay far less than the U.S. mean wage.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2010 OES, 2011.

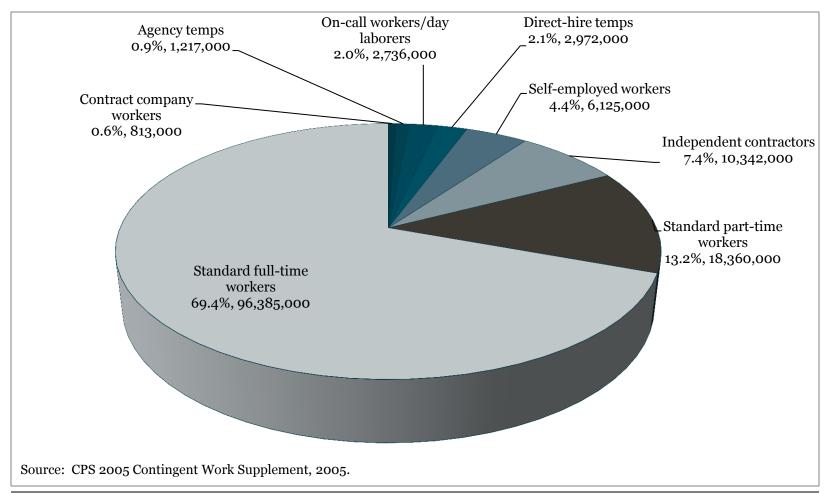
## Polarized Future: Fastest Growth in Low-Wage Jobs

Of the 30 occupations with the fastest projected growth from 2008-2018, relatively few are medium-skill jobs



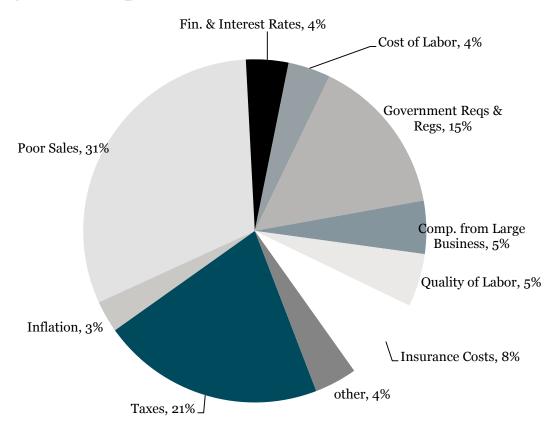
Source: Employment Projections, BLS, 2009.

# Contingent Workers: 30 percent of the workforce



### **Low Demand**

#### **Single Most Important Problem for Small Businesses**



Source: National Federation of Independent Businesses

## Policy Implications: Policy Produced an Unsustainable Recovery

**Monetary reflation** 



Asset reflation, financial sector profits, and the return of global trade imbalances

Tax cuts, "cash for clunkers," and unemployment insurance



(Temporary) support of consumer spending

Modest infrastructure and public works spending



Weak job creation and stagnant wages