Why Good People Can't Get Jobs

Peter Cappelli
The Wharton School

US 9%

Switzerland 4%

Spain 18%

Japan 5%

Norway 3%

Germany 8%

China 4%

India 10%





Source: The Conference Board, BLS

Yet employers complain...

Source: Manpower survey

FIGURE 3. DIFFICULTY FILLING JOBS BY COUNTRY

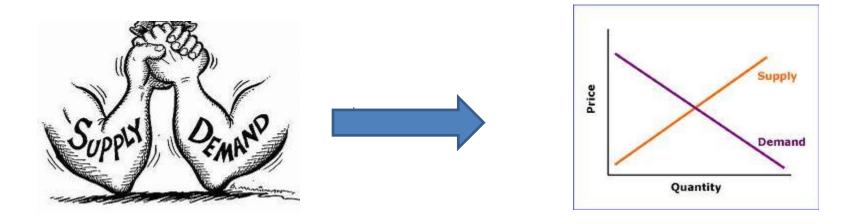


TOP 10 JOBS HARDEST TO FILL JOBS GLOBALLY*

POSITION	2006	2010	2011
Technicians	3	3	1
Sales Reps	1	2	2
Skilled Trades	5	1	3
Engineers	2	4	4
Laborers	N/A	10	5
Mgmt/Execs	10	8	6
Accounting			
& Finance Staff	9	5	7
IT Staff	6	-	8
Production Ops	4	6	9
Office Support	7	7	10

^{*} Source: Manpower Survey

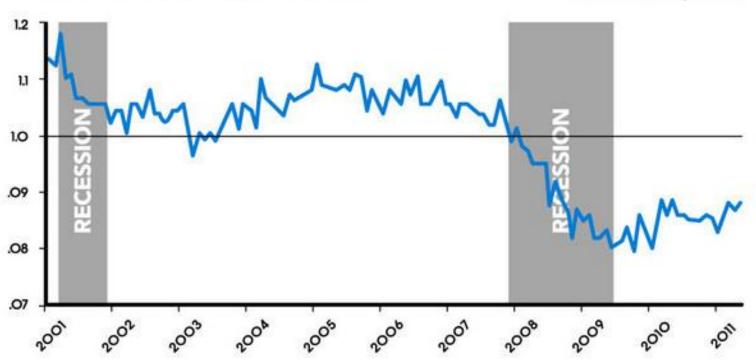
Won't wage adjustments solve the problem?



How Hard Are We Looking?

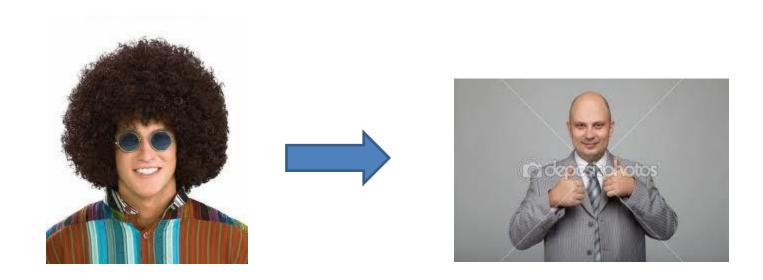
RECRUITING INTENSITY PER JOB VACANCY, JANUARY 2001 TO MAY 2011

Source: Steven J. Davis, Jason Faberman and John Haltiwanger using data from the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey. Recessions, as dated by the NBER.



Note: Data for the Nonfarm U.S. economy excluding the federal government.

Complaints about new hires....



Not complaining about academic skills in new hires....



The new plug-and-play labor market....



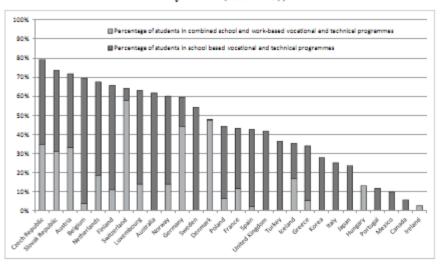
Work-based skills are the issue

Most employers provide some



Work-based skills taught in school

Figure 2 Vocational education and training as a share of the upper secondary sector (ISCED 3), 2006

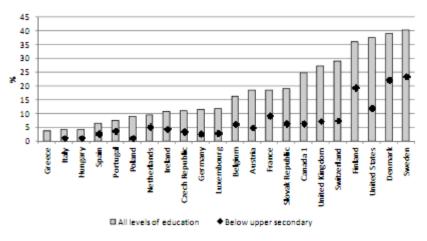


Source: OECD (2008), Education at a Glance 2008: OECD Indicators, Table C1.1, OECD, Paris.

Some get skills after leaving schools and outside of work

Figure 1.2 Participation in job-related continuing education and training

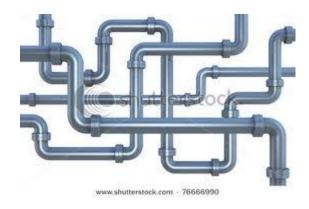
By level of education, 2003



Note: 1. Year of reference 2002.

Source: OECD (2008), Education at a Glance, OECD Indicators, Table C5.1a, OECD, Paris.

Crazy Hiring Processes?



Market-Makers....

