

Youth Unemployment in post- *Apartheid* South Africa

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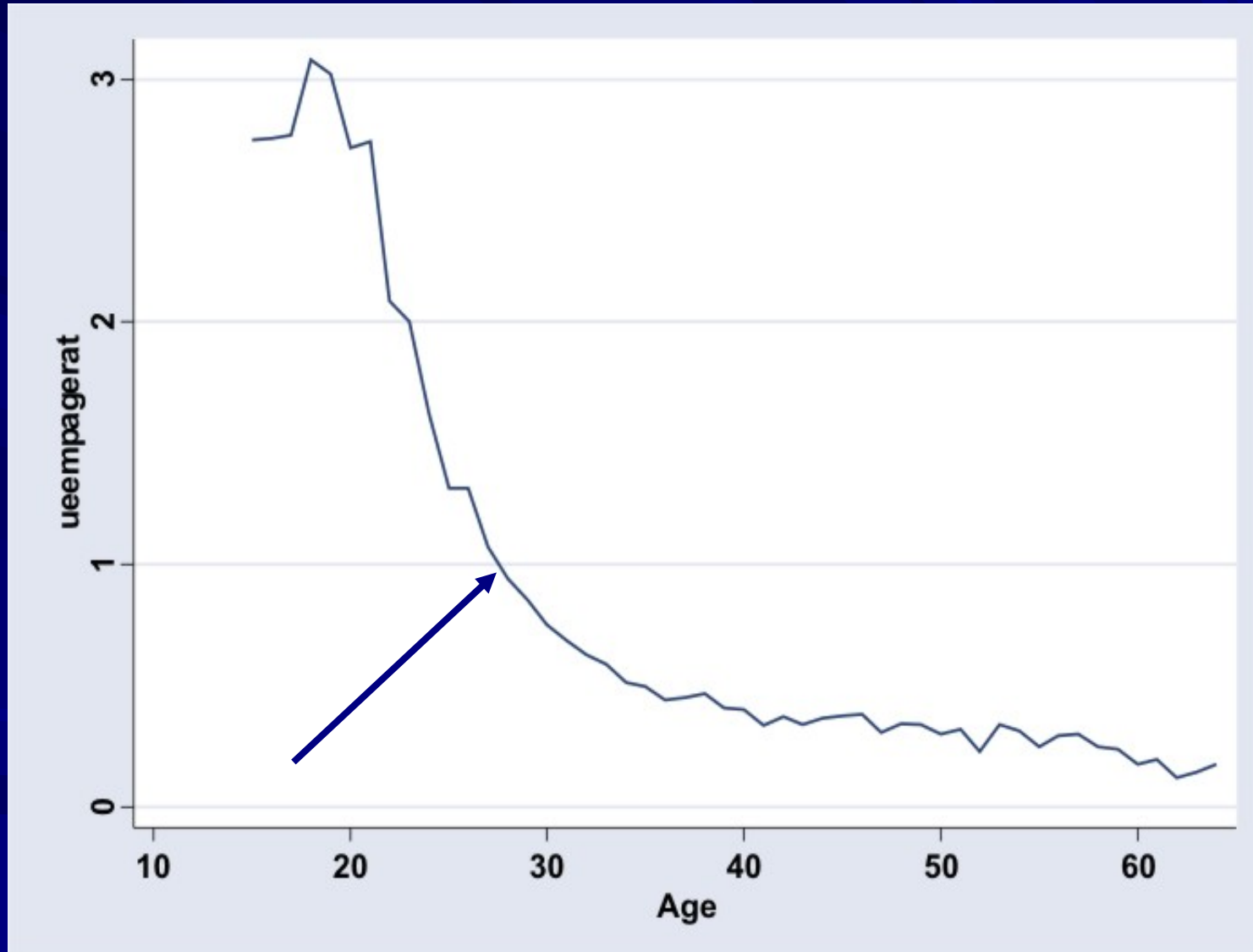
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Population of Working Age, 16-64: Labour Market Status by Age Cohort

Age Category	Out of EAP	Employed	Unemployed	Total
Youth : 15-24	5 309 486	1 117 277	2 572 121	8 998 884
	59.00	12.42	28.58	100.00
	62.93	10.32	32.41	33.08
Youth : 25-34	825 785	3 513 614	3 009 033	7 348 432
	11.24	47.81	40.95	100.00
	9.79	32.45	37.92	27.02
'Non-youth'	2 301 378	6 196 186	2 354 668	10 852 232
	21.21	57.1	21.7	100.00
	27.28	57.23	29.67	39.9
Total	8 436 649	10 827 077	7 935 822	27 199 548
	31.02	39.81	29.18	100.00
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Ratio of Number of Unemployed to Employed, By Age



Shares & Proportions

- 70% of all young people (15-34), irrespective of their labour market status, are unemployed, of whom *close to a third* are those aged 15-24
- In pure numerical terms, the problem of unemployment in South Africa is the problem of youth unemployment
- While the numbers are much higher, this strong youth dimension to unemployment is a global phenomenon

Unemployment Rates, by Race, Gender and Location

Age Category	15-24		25-34		35+		Total	
Cohort	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.
African	0.78	0.006	0.54	0.005	0.33	0.004	0.50	0.003
Coloured	0.49	0.016	0.26	0.013	0.20	0.010	0.29	0.007
Asian	0.48	0.036	0.19	0.023	0.20	0.019	0.25	0.014
White	0.22	0.021	0.09	0.010	0.07	0.006	0.10	0.005
Male	0.64	0.008	0.37	0.007	0.23	0.005	0.36	0.004
Female	0.75	0.008	0.55	0.007	0.33	0.005	0.49	0.004
African Female	0.84	0.007	0.63	0.007	0.38	0.006	0.57	0.004
African Male	0.72	0.009	0.45	0.008	0.28	0.006	0.43	0.004
Urban	0.66	0.008	0.40	0.006	0.24	0.004	0.37	0.003
Rural	0.75	0.008	0.56	0.008	0.34	0.006	0.50	0.004
African Female Rural	0.84	0.009	0.66	0.010	0.42	0.010	0.60	0.006
Total	0.70	0.006	0.46	0.005	0.28	0.004	0.42	0.003

Proportion of Unemployed Who have or Have Not Worked Before, By Age Category

Response	Youth	Older Youth	Non - Youth	Total
Yes				
Number	373 445	1 023 894	1 539 068	2 936 407
Share	14.52	34.03	65.36	37
No				
Number	2 197 734	1 984 469	814 684	4 996 887
Share	85.44	65.95	34.6	62.97
Total				
Number	2 572 121	3 009 033	2 354 668	7 935 822
Share	100	100	100	100

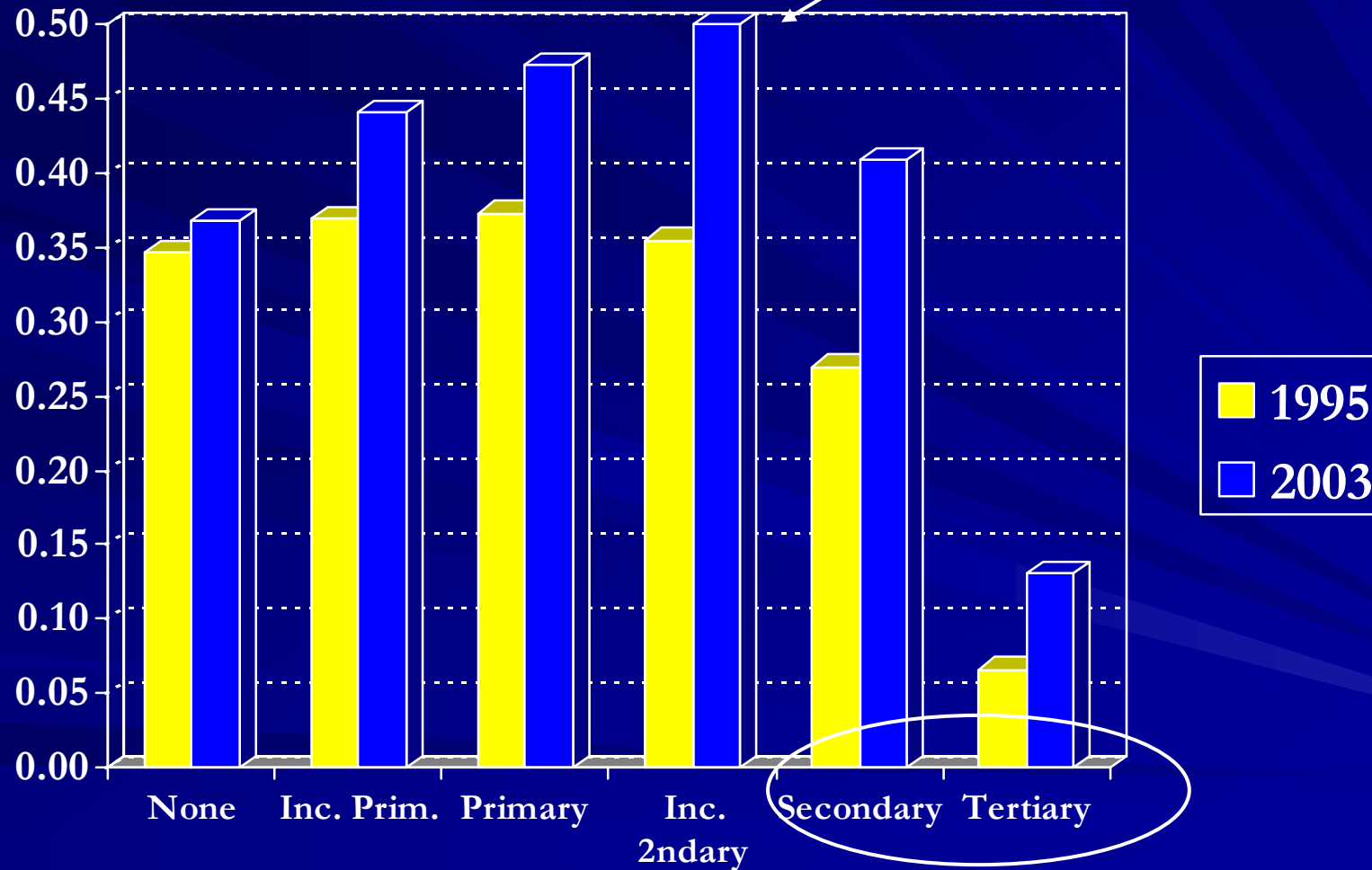
Key Markers of Youth Unemployment

- Race, Gender and Location remain the key determinants or predictors of unemployment generally
- This is no different for young people
- The most disadvantaged individual in the labour market thus is likely to be a young, African, female living in a rural area
- The inertia in unemployment is also very clear: Strong Structural dimension
- Note: that across most of these covariates unemployment rates have increased since 1994 [Does *not* mean jobless growth]
- Missing link above....Education

Youth Unemployment Rates by Education Level

Age Category	15-24		25-34		35+		Total	
	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.	Estimate	Std. Err.
No schooling	0.68	0.047	0.41	0.027	0.33	0.012	0.36	0.010
Primary schooling	0.73	0.012	0.52	0.011	0.36	0.007	0.46	0.006
Incomplete Secondary	0.75	0.008	0.56	0.008	0.33	0.007	0.51	0.005
Matric	0.66	0.011	0.43	0.009	0.17	0.008	0.42	0.006
Tertiary, non-degree	0.50	0.030	0.27	0.014	0.07	0.008	0.20	0.008
Tertiary, Degree	0.17	0.045	0.14	0.016	0.04	0.007	0.08	0.008

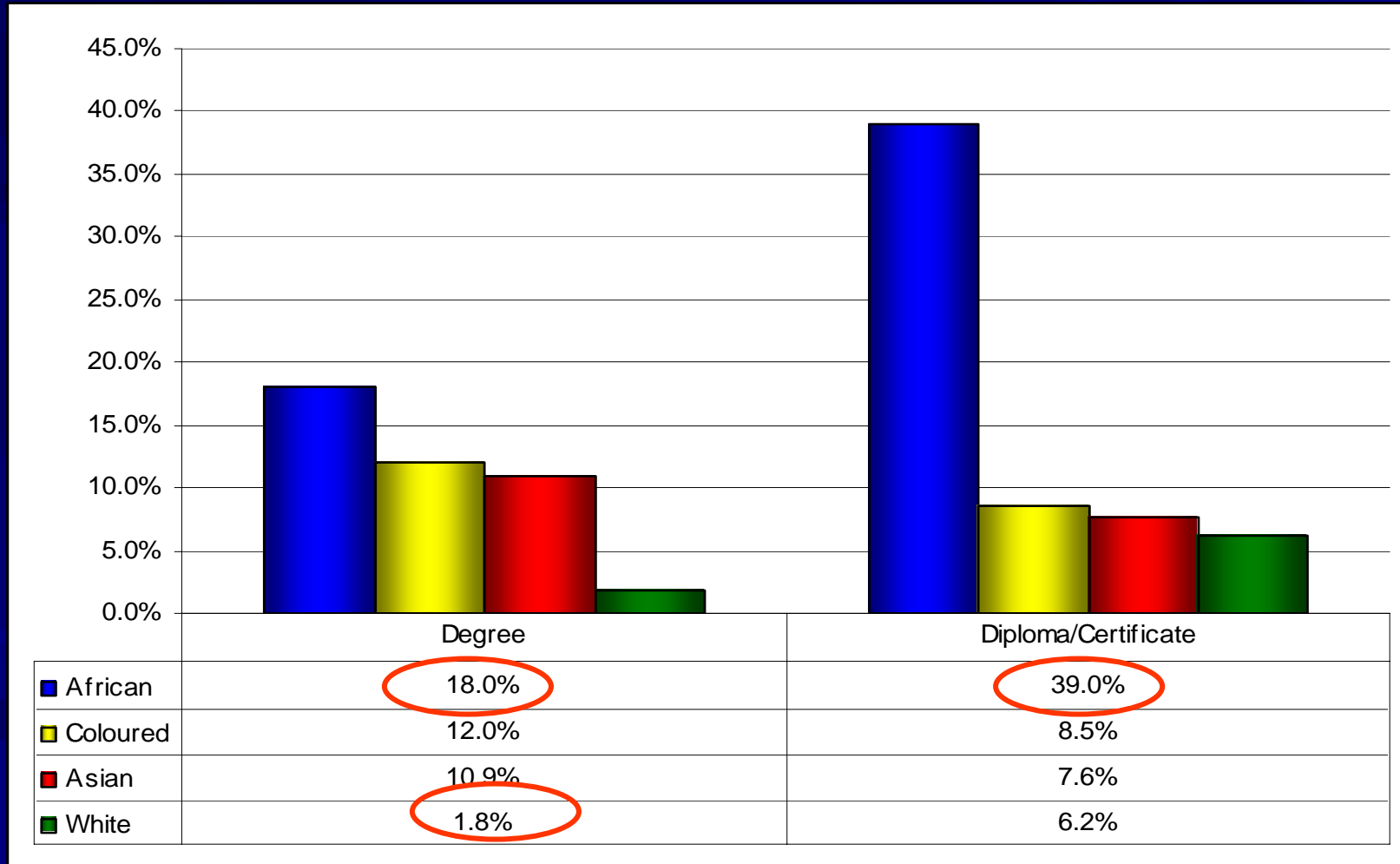
Unemployment Rates by Education



Distribution of Graduate Unemployment

	Year	African	Coloured	Asian	White	Total
Diploma/Cert. With Matric	1995	63.0	5.3	3.4	9.3	80.9
	2003	71.8	2.8	1.0	6.9	82.5
Degree	1995	10.1	2.3	0.3	6.4	19.1
	2003	12.4	0.8	1.4	2.9	17.5
Total	1995	73.1	7.6	3.7	15.6	100.0
	2003	84.1	3.6	2.4	9.9	100.0

Tertiary Youth Unemployment Rates, By Race



Unemployed Youth & Education

- Overall manifest in a skills mismatch, with characteristics of workers not meeting labour demand needs
- Within this, there are problems of:
 - Quality of schooling together with quality & content of Matric Passes
 - Early School Leavers: Problems in FET System
 - Incorrect/inappropriate fields of study
 - Malfunctioning labour market information system
 - Insufficient communication between firms and Institutions of Human Capital