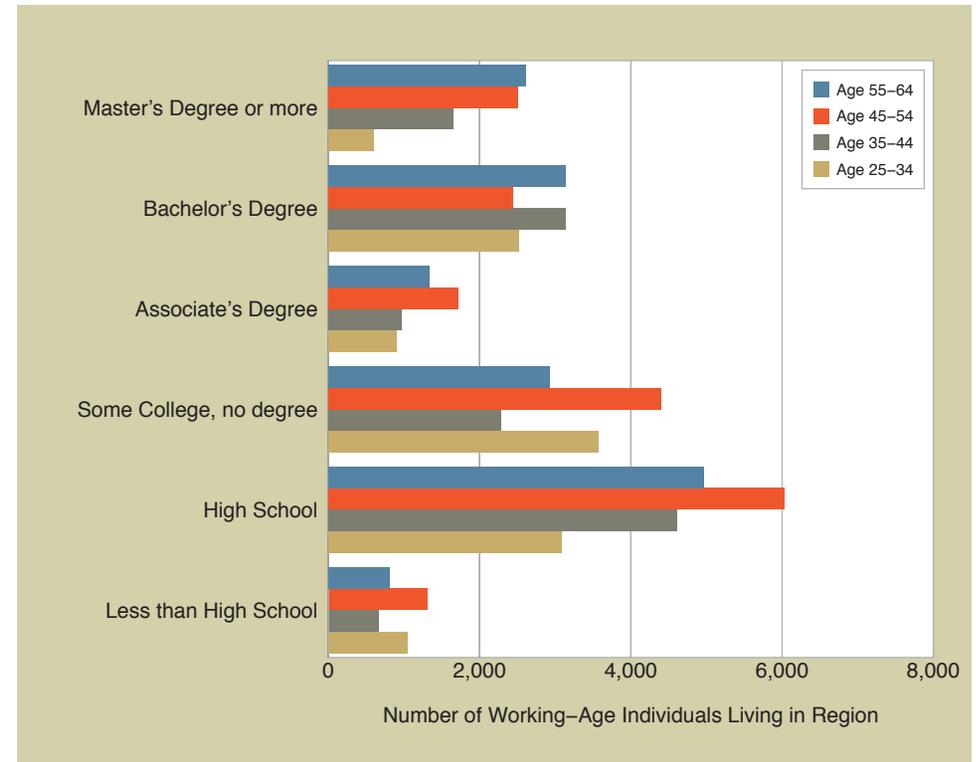


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY AGE GROUP IN BERKSHIRE (2008-2010)

If we look at Berkshire's population by both age and education, we get an understanding of the workers who will be replacing the baby boomers. As the baby boomers have aged, 45-54-year-olds have become the largest age cohort in four of the six educational attainment groups. The exceptions are for those with a Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree. As the boomers continue to near retirement age and, over time, leave the labor force, nearly every educational category faces a potential shortfall of workers. For example, in 2008-2010, there were over 1,700 people with an Associate's Degree between the ages of 45 and 54 in Berkshire but only 900 between the ages of 25 and 34. The difference of 800 individuals is equivalent to 47.6 percent of the 45-54-year-olds who may need to be replaced as they leave the workforce. A similar potential shortfall of working-age individuals exists for people with a High School Degree (2,940, or 48.8 percent). However, these gaps may actually be much smaller, since the educational requirements for most industries and occupations have been increasing, and some positions that have traditionally been filled by people with a High School Degree or Associate's Degree are now held by people with a Bachelor's Degree or higher.



**Source:** US Census Bureau 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.