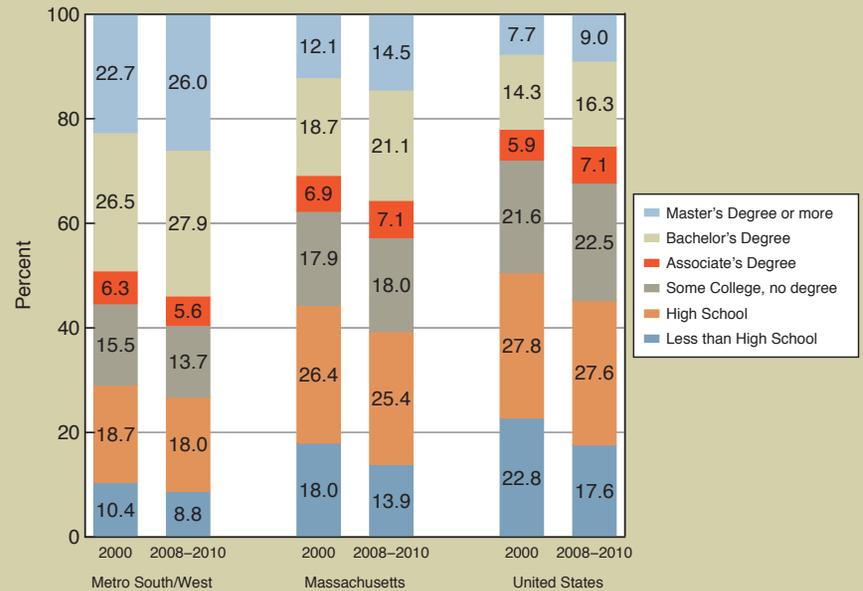


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE WORKING-AGE POPULATION

Of the eight regional labor markets in Massachusetts, Metro South/West has the largest share of working-age people with a college degree or higher. By 2008-2010, over 50 percent of the working-age population had a Bachelor's Degree or higher. The region's educational attainment far exceeds that of Massachusetts, which has one of the highest rates in the country of residents with a college degree. Over the last decade, the share of working-age population with a Bachelor's Degree or higher increased, but there were declines among all other educational categories, including individuals with Some College and with an Associate's Degree. In comparison, in Massachusetts and the United States, the number and share of working individuals with Some College and with an Associate's Degree increased.

**Source:** US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files and 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Educational Distribution of the Working-Age Population, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Working-Age Population by Educational Attainment in Metro South/West

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Less than High School	82,429	71,335	-11,094	-1.6
High School Graduate	147,550	146,710	-840	-0.1
Some College, no degree	122,722	111,976	-10,746	-1.0
Associate's Degree	49,502	45,644	-3,858	-0.9
Bachelor's Degree	209,142	227,579	18,437	0.9
Master's Degree or more	179,128	211,850	32,722	1.9