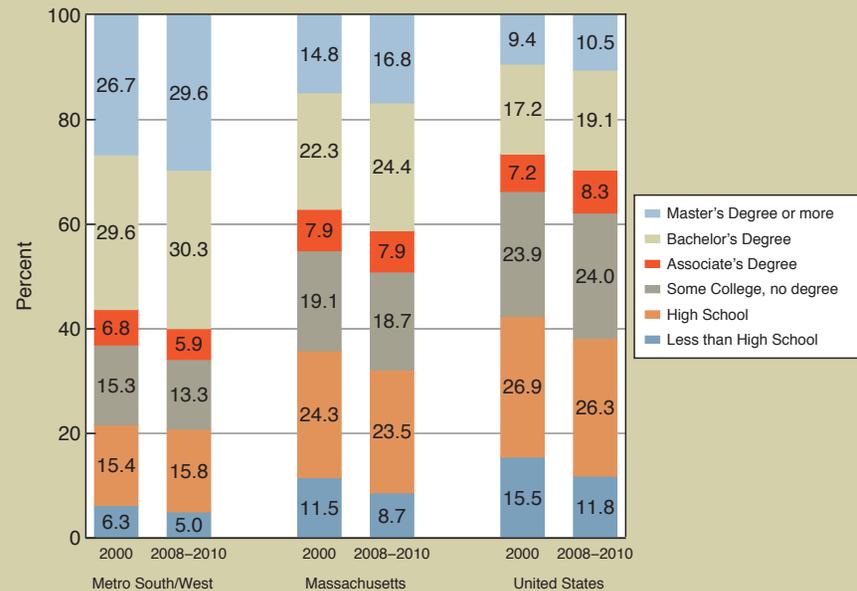


EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

It is not surprising that a highly educated working-age population translates into a more highly educated civilian labor force. Nearly 30 percent of Metro South/West’s workers had a Master’s Degree or higher, which is almost double the share of workers in Massachusetts with at least a Master’s Degree. At the end of the decade, nearly 80 percent of the civilian labor force in Metro South/West had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher). This is substantially higher than the nearly 70 percent in Massachusetts and 60 percent nationwide who had some post-secondary education.

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

Educational Distribution of the Civilian Labor Force, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Civilian Labor Force Population by Educational Attainment in Metro South/West

| | 2000 | 2008-2010 | Absolute Change | Annual Growth Rate (Percent) |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Less than High School | 35,069 | 29,248 | -5,821 | -2.0 |
| High School Graduate | 86,281 | 92,579 | 6,298 | 0.8 |
| Some College, no degree | 85,721 | 77,998 | -7,723 | -1.0 |
| Associate's Degree | 37,964 | 34,580 | -3,384 | -1.0 |
| Bachelor's Degree | 165,943 | 177,422 | 11,479 | 0.7 |
| Master's Degree or more | 149,784 | 173,366 | 23,582 | 1.6 |