

CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT DURING THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN BY MAJOR INDUSTRY: MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts faced a slightly tougher downturn than Metro South/West. The state's strongest employment gains came in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry (4.0 percent), as a result of strong growth in the sub-industry of Ambulatory Health Care Services (7.7 percent). The state also saw modest employment gains in four other industries, ranging from 0.7 percent in Government to 3.0 percent in Utilities. Such gains were more than offset by significant losses in two industries hit hardest by the Great Recession: Manufacturing (-13.5 percent) and Construction (-20.5 percent). Within Trade, Transportation & Utilities, the state experienced large losses

from two major industries within this supersector: Retail Trade (-4.7 percent) and Wholesale Trade (-9.3 percent). While Metro South/West and Massachusetts saw similar employment losses across a number of industries in the Great Recession, the state experienced weaker growth than Metro South/West in the few industries that expanded employment between 2007 and 2009 and, as a result, had steeper total employment losses than the region.

Source: Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development ES-202.

Note: Industries are sorted by size in Massachusetts in Q4 2010.

