

THE UNEMPLOYED: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2000 AND 2008-2010)

Those with a High School Degree or less accounted for 55.3 percent of the unemployed in the Southeast region in 2008-2010, well above the comparable share in Massachusetts (50.5 percent) but similar to the rate in the United States (56.0 percent). This was down from more than 60 percent in 2000. Over the course of the decade, the share of the unemployed increased for most educational attainment levels above a High School Degree (declining only for those with a Master's Degree or higher). However, people with less education continued to be disproportionately represented among the unemployed relative to their share of the civilian labor force. For example, in 2008-2010, those with less than a High School Degree accounted for the 21.1 percent of the unemployed but represented only 9.8 percent of the civilian labor force. The region's disproportional unemployment among the less educated was fairly similar to the experience of comparable populations in both Massachusetts and the United States in the past decade.

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

