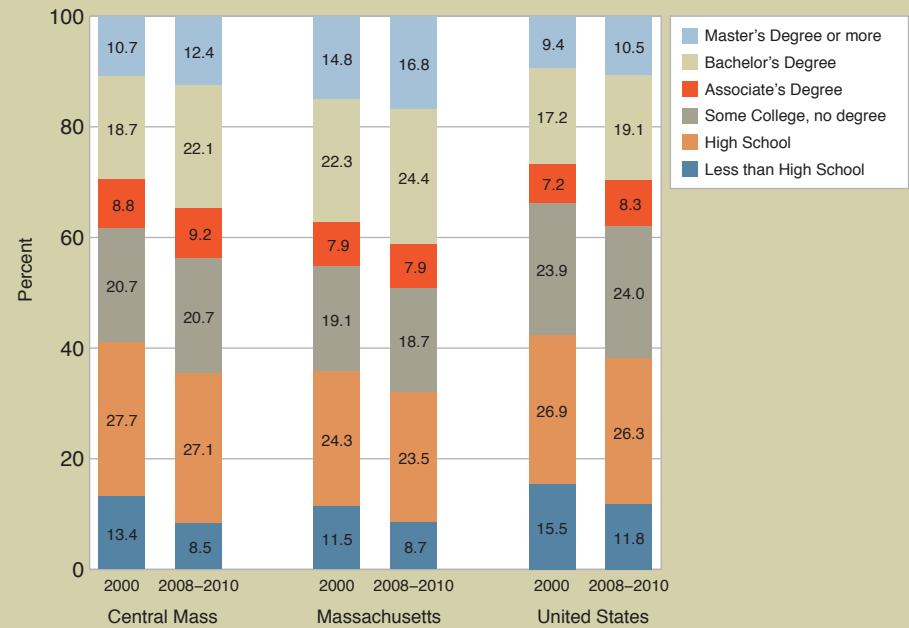


EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

We see even higher levels of educational attainment, relative to the working-age population, among those who are actually participating in the labor force. And, similar to the working-age population, there has been progressively stronger growth in the level of educational attainment of the civilian labor force in Central Mass. By 2008-2010, 34.5 percent of the Central Mass labor force had a Bachelor's Degree or higher, but that still trailed the 41.2 percent in Massachusetts who had such a degree. However, 64.4 percent of the civilian labor force in Central Mass had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher). This trailed the nearly 68 percent of Massachusetts labor force who had some post-secondary education but exceeded the 61.9 percent nationwide. Nonetheless, the most common level of educational attainment among people in the civilian labor force in the region continued to be a High School Degree (27.1 percent).

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 Central Mass

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Less than High School	43,425	31,422	-12,003	-3.5
High School Graduate	90,216	100,683	10,467	1.2
Some College, no degree	67,425	76,780	9,355	1.5
Associate's Degree	28,482	34,099	5,617	2.0
Bachelor's Degree	60,766	81,946	21,180	3.4
Master's Degree or more	34,926	46,200	11,274	3.2