

ANNUAL COMPLETIONS BY TOP FIVE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE MAJORS IN CENTRAL MASS (2000-2010)

In large part, the growth in the number of Associate's Degrees granted in Central Mass over the decade was due to increases in the number of completions in the largest majors in recent years. Between 2000 and 2004, degree completions in four of the five largest majors declined, with the exception being Engineering & Computer Sciences degrees. Thereafter, degree completions in these four fields increased between 2004 and 2010, with annual growth rates between 5.2 percent in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences and 12.3 percent in Health Sciences. While each of these fields made considerable gains in the second half of the decade, the largest increase came between 2009 and 2010, with increases in completions ranging from 16.6 percent in Services to 27.4 percent in Business degrees. Engineering & Computer Sciences, on the other hand, declined from a peak level in 2004 through the end of the decade, falling at an annual rate of 4.8 percent.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Post Secondary Education Data System.

