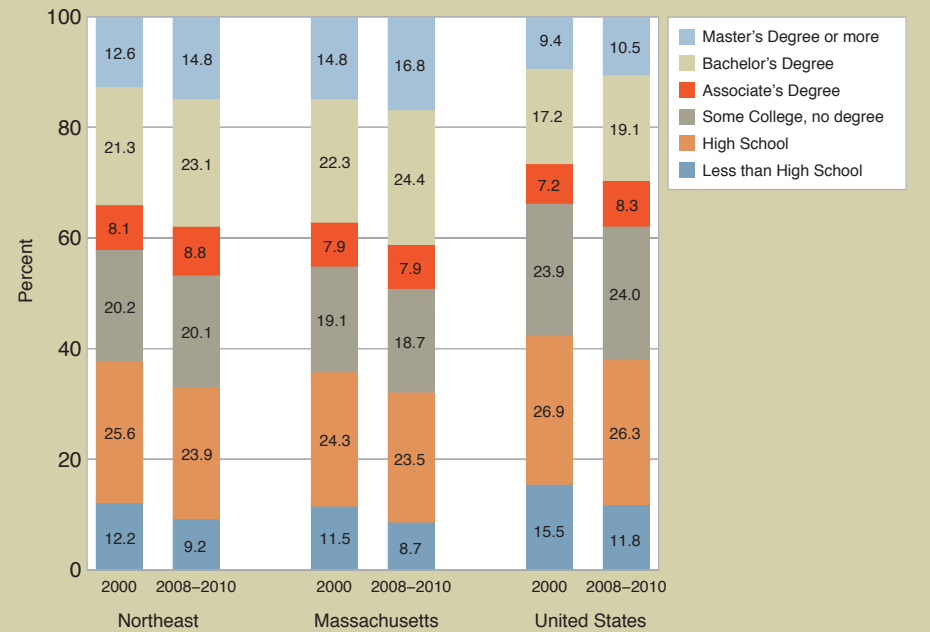


EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

When looking at those people who are participating in the labor force (either working or actively looking for work), we see even higher levels of educational attainment. In 2008-2010, nearly 38 percent of the Northeast labor force had a Bachelor's Degree or higher, trailing the 41 percent in Massachusetts. Over the course of the last decade, the civilian labor force in the Northeast region has had strong growth in the number and share of workers with higher levels of education. By the end of the decade, two-thirds (66.8 percent) of the civilian labor force in the Northeast region had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher). This was slightly below the 67.8 percent in Massachusetts but exceeded the 61.9 percent nationwide who had some post-secondary education. However, the most common level of educational attainment among the civilian labor force in the region continued to be a High School Degree.

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 the Northeast Region

| | 2000 | 2008-2010 | Absolute Change | Annual Growth Rate (Percent) |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Less than High School | 62,824 | 51,452 | -11,372 | -2.2 |
| High School Graduate | 131,550 | 132,965 | 1,415 | 0.1 |
| Some College, no degree | 103,686 | 112,074 | 8,388 | 0.9 |
| Associate's Degree | 41,530 | 49,068 | 7,538 | 1.9 |
| Bachelor's Degree | 109,818 | 128,244 | 18,426 | 1.7 |
| Master's Degree or more | 64,987 | 82,469 | 17,482 | 2.7 |