

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

Massachusetts faced a slightly tougher downturn than did the Northeast region. The state's strongest employment gains also 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). Further gains in Education Services (1.9 percent) were more than offset by significant losses in Manufacturing (-13.5 percent) and Construction (-20.5 percent). Within Trade, Transportation & Utilities, the state experienced large losses in two major industries: Retail Trade (-4.7 percent) and Wholesale Trade (-9.3 percent).

Further losses in Financial Activities (-6.3 percent) and Administrative & Support Services (-12.8 percent) resulted in a 4.0 percent statewide decline in employment (nearly 130,000 jobs), which exceeded that of the Northeast region during the Great Recession.

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

Note: Industries are sorted by size in Massachusetts in Q4 2009.

