

NUMBER OF DEGREE COMPLETIONS BY DEGREE TYPE IN THE NORTHEAST REGION (2000-2010)

Adding up Bachelor's and Associate's Degrees and Certificates, the total number of people awarded a postsecondary degree by institutions in the Northeast region grew at an annual rate of 4.1 percent between 2000 and 2010. This was faster than in Massachusetts (2.5 percent) and the United States (3.7 percent), where there was slower growth in the completions of Certificates and Bachelor's Degrees. Between 2000 and 2005, the number of Certificates completed in the Northeast region grew at an annual rate of 11.4 percent. While the growth of such degrees slowed in the second half of the decade, they still increased at a robust annual rate of 5.8 percent between 2005 and 2010. Because of the growing popularity of Certificates over the course of the decade, their share of the region's post-secondary completions increased from 16.5 percent in 2000 to 25.0 percent in 2010. During this same time, Associate's Degrees fell from 22.3 percent of completions in 2000 to 19.7 percent in 2010.

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

