

ASSOCIATE'S DEGREES AWARDED BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY (2000-2010)

The growth of Associate's Degrees granted by institutions in the Northeast region was the result of increases in nearly every major field of study. Art, Humanities, & Social Sciences, the largest field of study for Associate's Degrees in both the region and statewide, had the largest increase of all majors over the course of the decade. This field accounted for 457 completions in 2010, representing 31.2 percent of Associate's Degrees in the region. The region's second largest major, Health Sciences, only moderately increased the number of graduates between 2000 and 2010 and actually fell to 22.9 percent of the region's Associate's Degrees. In comparison,

Massachusetts saw strong growth in the number of Health Science majors, and their share of all Associate's Degrees rose to 25.1 percent by the end of the decade. The only two fields to grant fewer degrees in 2010 than in 2000 were the Science, Engineering, Technology, and Mathematics (STEM) fields of Engineering & Computer Sciences and Science & Mathematics, possibly reflecting a movement towards Bachelor's Degrees in such fields.

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

Major Field of Study	Northeast				Massachusetts			
	2000		2010		2000		2010	
	Associate's Completed	Major's Share of Total (Percent)	Associate's Completed	Major's Share of Total (Percent)	Associate's Completed	Major's Share of Total (Percent)	Associate's Completed	Major's Share of Total (Percent)
Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences	288	26.1	457	31.2	3,130	27.7	3,833	27.0
Health Sciences	281	25.5	335	22.9	2,302	20.4	3,559	25.1
Services	113	10.2	199	13.6	1,216	10.8	2,389	16.8
Business	188	17.0	219	15.0	2,198	19.5	2,250	15.8
Engineering & Computer Sciences	113	10.2	101	6.9	1,561	13.8	1,162	8.2
Education	42	3.8	58	4.0	293	2.6	442	3.1
Science & Mathematics	36	3.3	25	1.7	231	2.0	260	1.8
Legal	31	2.8	35	2.4	189	1.7	117	0.8
Other	11	1.0	34	2.3	179	1.6	185	1.3
Total	1,103	100.0	1,463	100.0	11,299	100.0	14,197	100.0