

THE UNEMPLOYED: AGE DISTRIBUTION (2000 AND 2008–2010)

While 32 percent of the civilian labor force in Pioneer Valley was 34 years of age or younger at the end of the decade, over 50 percent of the region's unemployed was 34 or younger. This was down from 58.1 percent at the beginning of the decade, as the increasing share of the population age 45 or older also translated into a higher share of such individuals among the unemployed. However, the younger age cohorts continue to be disproportionately represented among the unemployed. For example, 16–24-year-olds accounted for the largest share of the unemployed (31.1 percent) among all age cohorts in 2008–2010 but were the second smallest age cohort in the civilian labor force (behind those age 65 and older), at only 13.7 percent. In fact, such disproportional unemployment far exceeds that in both Massachusetts and the United States.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files and 2008–2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Note: Unemployed are individuals age 16 or older not employed and actively looking for work.

