

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

While only 31.5 percent of the civilian labor force in Berkshire was 34 years or younger at the end of the decade, nearly 50 percent of the region's unemployed was 34 years or younger. This was up from 46.7 percent at the beginning of the decade, despite little change in the share of the civilian labor force aged 34 or younger. As such, the younger age cohorts continue to be disproportionately represented among the unemployed. For example, in 2008-2010, 16-24-year-olds accounted for the largest share of unemployed among age cohorts (29.0 percent) but made up the second smallest age cohort in the civilian labor force (behind those age 65 and older), at only 14.1 percent. Disproportional unemployment among the young also occurs in 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.

