Massachusetts fared slightly better in the downturn than did Berkshire. The state’s strongest employment gains 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 Educational Services (1.9 percent) were offset by significant losses in Administrative & Support Services (–12.8 percent), Manufacturing (–13.5 percent), and Construction (–20.5 percent). Within the Trade, Transportation, & Utilities supersector, the state experienced large losses in two major industries: Retail Trade (–4.7 percent) and Wholesale Trade (–9.3 percent). However, Massachusetts industries did not experience job losses as steep as did their Berkshire counterparts and had stronger gains in the few industries that expanded employment. As a result, employment losses statewide (–4.0 percent or nearly 130,000 jobs) were less than those in Berkshire in the downturn between 2007 and 2009 (–4.3 percent).


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