EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR OCCUPATION: BERKSHIRE (2008-2010)

Industries are where people work, and occupations are what people do. Looking at the occupational composition of Berkshire helps to reveal what types of workers are in demand by businesses. In Berkshire, Office & Administrative Support is the largest occupational group, accounting for 12.5 percent of the region's jobs. However, the number of jobs in the occupation in 2008-2010 was actually fewer than the number in 2000. Sales occupations, the second largest occupational group in the region, have also decreased over the course of the decade. But Food Preparation & Serving, the third largest occupation, was one of the fastest growing occupations in Berkshire during the same period. Occupations that are closely associated with growing industries have increased; one example is Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Services, which has high employment concentrations in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry. Similarly, some occupations that are strongly concentrated in declining industries have contracted, such as Production occupations in the Manufacturing sector.

Source: US Census Bureau 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Note: All Other occupations are composed of Community & Social Services, Legal, Protective Services, Farming, Fishing & Forestry, and Military Specific. Occupations are sorted largest to smallest by size in Massachusetts. See the on-line Data Appendix for occupational employment trends.

