GROWTH IN POTENTIAL SUPPLY OF EDUCATED WORKERS: FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT TRENDS IN THE PAST DECADE

Between 2000 and 2010, the number of full-time students enrolled at less-than-two-, two-, and four-year institutions increased in Berkshire, Massachusetts, and the United States. However, enrollment growth at each type of institution in Berkshire trailed that of both the state and the nation. There are no private two-year institutions in Berkshire, so enrollment at two-year institutions in the region lagged because of slow growth at public two-year institutions. In contrast, regional growth in full-time enrollment at less-than-two-year institutions trailed due to slower growth at private institutions. Enrollment at four-year institutions faltered mainly due to the much smaller enrollment growth at private institutions (0.1 percent) in the region, much lower than the growth experienced both statewide and nationally. However, growth in full-time enrollment at public four-year institutions in Berkshire (3.1 percent) outpaced both the state and national trends.


Note: Enrollment data are from the fall semester of the academic year. For example, 2010 enrollment is from the fall of 2009 of the 2009-2010 academic year. Enrollment data are provided by the type of institution. Students can earn different types of degrees within an institution. For example, the enrollment at a community college would be categorized as being in a two-year institution for all students enrolled that year. However, students at community colleges complete different type of programs, such as Certificates and Associate's Degrees.