NUMBER OF DEGREE COMPLETIONS BY DEGREE TYPE: BERKSHIRE (2000-2010)

Adding up Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees and Certificates, the total number of people awarded a post-secondary degree by institutions in Berkshire declined at an annual rate of 0.6 percent between 2000 and 2010. In comparison, post-secondary completions increased at a rate of 2.5 percent in Massachusetts and 3.7 percent in the United States. While Associate’s and Bachelor’s Degree completions fell in the past decade, the decline largely occurred early in the decade. Between 2000 and 2002, Bachelor’s Degree completions declined at an annual rate of 7.1 percent; this was followed by annual growth of 1.4 percent to 2010. Associate’s Degrees, similarly, declined at an annual rate of 10.9 percent between 2000 and 2002, followed by 2.3 percent annual growth through the end of the decade. Certificate completions were more volatile over the course of the decade, beginning the decade with a high of 226 completions before oscillating over the years, reaching a decade low of 136 in 2008 and increasing to 196 in 2010.