ANNUAL COMPLETIONS BY TOP FIVE CERTIFICATE MAJORS IN BERKSHIRE (2000-2010)

The number and composition of Certificates awarded by Berkshire institutions fluctuated considerably from year-to-year. Completions in the Services field were especially volatile, reaching a low of three in 2005 and a high of 40 in 2010. The Business and Legal fields of study were among the more common for graduates at the start of the decade, but they experienced a considerable drop in completions in the middle of the decade and never rebounded. In contrast, Health Sciences Certificates in the region grew at an annual rate of 3.8 percent between 2000 and 2010. However, this is largely due to an increase in Certificates in the field between 2007 and 2010, when completions increased at an annual rate of 12.3 percent. This growth, and the consistently large share of Certificates in Health Sciences, may potentially reflect an increasing demand for employees with such education and training from growing industries including Health Care & Social Assistance.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Post Secondary Education Data System.

