## THE AGE PROFILE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Given the age of the region's population, it is not surprising that the civilian labor force in Boston/Metro North is much younger than the labor forces in the state and nation. While the Boston/ Metro North civilian labor force has remained young in relative terms, it saw an increase in the share of population in the older age cohorts over the past decade, as did Massachusetts and the United States. In 2008-2010, over 65 percent of the region's labor force was age 44 or younger, down from over 70 percent at the beginning of the decade. The two fastest growing age groups were $55-64$-year-olds and those 65 years of age or older. The only age group among the region's civilian labor force to shrink over the past decade was 35-44-year-olds. The region, however, maintained nearly the same share of civilian labor force who were ages 16 to 34 ( 46 percent) over the course of the decade, while the shares of the same age cohorts in the state and nation declined.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files and 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Age Distribution of the Civilian Labor Force, 2000 and 2008-2010


| Growth of Civilian Labor Force Population by Age in <br> Boston/Metro North |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 2000 | $2008-2010$ | Absolute <br> Change | Annual Growth <br> Rate (Percent) |
| Age 16-24 | 98,573 | 118,639 | 20,066 | 2.1 |
| Age 25-34 | 195,035 | 214,609 | 19,574 | 1.1 |
| Age 35-44 | 152,143 | 146,994 | $-5,149$ | -0.4 |
| Age 45-54 | 113,288 | 132,747 | 19,459 | 1.8 |
| Age 55-64 | 56,604 | 86,350 | 29,746 | 4.8 |
| Age 65+ | 17,859 | 27,152 | 9,293 | 4.8 |

