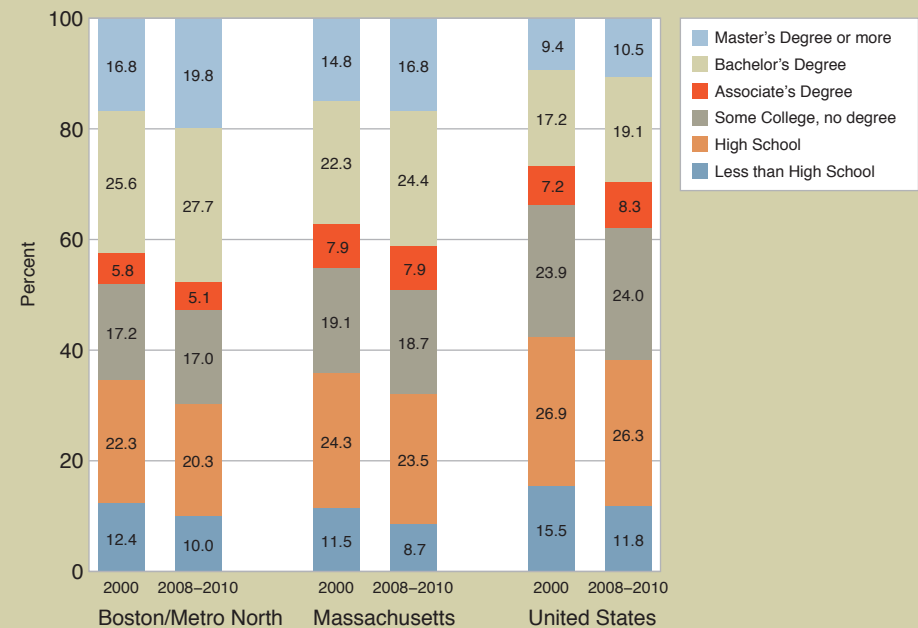


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

It is not surprising that a highly educated working-age population translates into a highly educated civilian labor force. At the end of the last decade, nearly 50 percent of the Boston/Metro North civilian labor force had a Bachelor's Degree or higher, above the 41 percent in Massachusetts. Over the decade, Boston/Metro North saw the strongest growth at the highest levels of educational attainment (Bachelor's and Master's Degrees), with only modest growth among the middle levels of education (Some College and Associate's Degrees). At the end of the decade, 70 percent of the civilian labor force in Boston/Metro North had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher). This was only slightly higher than the share in Massachusetts, but it greatly exceeded the share nationwide (62 percent). In fact, the only educational attainment group to decline among the region's civilian labor force in the past decade was those with less than a high school education. However, such declines were slower in Boston/Metro North than in Massachusetts and the United States.

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

Educational Distribution of the Civilian Labor Force, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Civilian Labor Force Population by Educational Attainment in Boston/Metro North

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Less than High School	78,314	72,910	-5,404	-0.8
High School Graduate	141,568	147,332	5,764	0.4
Some College, no degree	109,134	123,163	14,029	1.4
Associate's Degree	36,454	37,341	887	0.3
Bachelor's Degree	161,903	201,580	39,677	2.5
Master's Degree or more	106,129	144,165	38,036	3.5