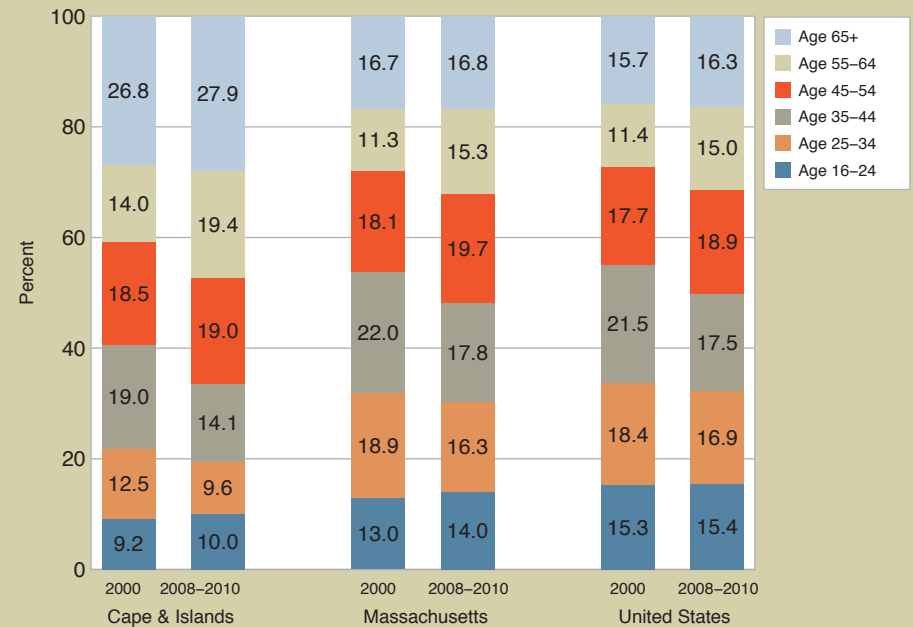


THE AGE PROFILE OF THE WORKING-AGE POPULATION

Massachusetts is one of the older states in the country, and the Cape & Islands is the oldest regional labor market in the state. In 2008–2010, 66.3 percent of the region’s working-age population was 45 years of age or older, up from 59.3 percent at the beginning of the decade. The largest share of the working-age population in the Cape & Islands was 65 years of age or older (27.9 percent). In Massachusetts and the United States, the largest age group was 45–54-year-olds. The 2008–2010 share of the working-age population between the ages of 16 and 34 was also particularly small in the Cape & Islands; at 19.6 percent, it was much smaller than it was statewide (30.3 percent) or nationally (32.3 percent), indicating potential workforce pipeline challenges.

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

Age Distribution of the Working-Age Population, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Working-Age Population by Age in the Cape & Islands

	2000	2008–2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Age 16–24	18,170	19,971	1,801	1.1
Age 25–34	24,537	19,119	–5,418	–2.7
Age 35–44	37,311	28,271	–9,040	–3.0
Age 45–54	36,297	38,079	1,782	0.5
Age 55–64	27,589	38,790	11,201	3.9
Age 65+	52,703	55,828	3,125	0.6