EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

When looking only at those people who are participating in the labor force (either working or actively looking for work), we see even higher levels of educational attainment. In 2008–2010, 39.2 percent of the labor force of the Cape & Islands had a Bachelor’s Degree or higher. However, in contrast to the working-age population, this figure trailed the 41.2 percent share in Massachusetts, likely due to the high number of retired residents with a Bachelor’s Degree or higher not participating in the labor force. However, 70.3 percent of the civilian labor force in the region had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher), exceeding the shares statewide (67.8 percent) and nationally (61.9 percent). Further, the most common level of educational attainment among the civilian labor force in the Cape & Islands switched from a High School Degree in 2000 to a Bachelor’s Degree in 2008–2010. And while the region’s labor force in 2008–2010 had a slightly larger share with a High School Degree than did Massachusetts (24.5 percent versus 23.5 percent), the Cape & Islands labor force had a much smaller share with less than a High School Degree (5.3 percent versus 8.7 percent.)