

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE TRENDS

At 3.3 percent, the Cape & Islands had the highest unemployment rate of all regional labor markets in 2000. As unemployment rose during the recession in the early 2000s, the statewide unemployment rate jumped to 5.8 percent in 2003, while the region's unemployment rate increased at a more moderate pace and reached only 5.0 percent (second lowest of all regional labor markets in 2003). Thereafter, the unemployment rate in the Cape & Islands dropped to 4.5 percent in 2007, nearly the same as the rate statewide. But in the Great Recession, the region's unemployment rate exceeded the statewide rate (8.5 percent) and reached 9.0 percent in 2010, but was in the middle of the pack among the regional labor markets.

**Source:** US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

**Note:** The annual unemployment rate is a 12-month average of the non-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate.

Unemployment Rate, 2000 to 2010



### Cape & Islands Unemployment

	2000	2010	Relative Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Unemployed	4,307	12,796	8,489	11.5
Employed	126,538	129,721	3,183	0.2
Civilian Labor Force	130,845	142,518	11,673	0.9
Unemployment Rate	3.3	9.0	-	-