

THE UNEMPLOYED: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2000 AND 2008–2010)

A majority of the unemployed in the Cape & Islands had some post-secondary education (59.8 percent) in 2008–2010, in contrast to the state (49.5 percent) and nation (44.0 percent). While a relatively large share of the civilian labor force in the region had a Bachelor's Degree, the region mostly differed from the state in its large share of the unemployed who have Some College education or an Associate's Degree. In 2000, the share of the unemployed in the Cape & Islands who had Some College or an Associate's Degree was 22.7 percent, actually lower than the share in Massachusetts. By the end of the decade that figure had grown to 33.0 percent in the region, exceeding the shares statewide (26.7 percent) and nationally (29.8 percent). However, lower educational attainment cohorts tend to be disproportionately represented among the unemployed. For example, in 2008–2010, those with less than a High School Degree accounted for 12.8 percent of the unemployed in the Cape & Islands but were only 5.3 percent of the civilian labor force.

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

