By looking at the educational attainment of an occupational group, we better understand the education typically required in that field of employment. In 2000, 45.1 percent of employees in Office & Administrative Support occupations in the Cape & Islands had Some College education or an Associate’s Degree, and a smaller percentage (36.2 percent) had a High School Degree or less. By comparison, 82.2 percent of employees in Education, Training, & Library Services had a Bachelor’s Degree or higher, while 59.5 percent of employees in Transportation & Material Moving had a High School Degree or less. While educational attainment gives some indication of skill requirements, it is not a perfect proxy for skill. Some occupations require significant training or other pre-requisites. For example, in Installation, Maintenance, & Repair occupations, 55.7 percent of employees had a High School Degree or less, but these occupations often require apprenticeships, professional certifications, or significant on-the-job training.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files.

Note: Occupations are sorted by size in Massachusetts in 2008–2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.