

## NUMBER OF DEGREE COMPLETIONS BY DEGREE TYPE: THE CAPE & ISLANDS (2000–2010)

Adding up Bachelor's and Associate's Degrees and Certificates, the total number of people awarded a post-secondary degree by institutions in the Cape & Islands increased at an annual rate of 6.3 percent between 2000 and 2010. In comparison, post-secondary completions increased at an annual rate of 2.5 percent in Massachusetts and 3.7 percent in the United States. While Associate's Degree completions increased at an annual rate of 4.4 percent between 2000 and 2010, this figure went through fits and starts over much of that time: growing between 2000 and 2002, followed by fewer completions in 2003, then growing through 2006 and reaching a decade high of 432 completions in 2010. The growth in Bachelor's Degree completions was similarly volatile, with a low of 130 completions in 2001 and a high of 203 in 2009. The strong annual growth of Certificate completions over the course of the decade was largely due to Cape Cod Community College not granting any Certificates until 2001. The annual growth in Certificate completions from 2001 to 2010 (2.3 percent) trailed both state (6.8 percent) and national (5.8 percent) trends.

**Source:** National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Post Secondary Education Data System.

