ANNUAL COMPLETIONS BY TOP FIVE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE MAJORS IN THE CAPE & ISLANDS (2000–2010)

As with Certificates, the number of students earning Associate's Degrees in the largest majors has been volatile in the Cape & Islands. For example, completions in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences rose fairly steadily through 2006, followed by a small decline before reaching a peak of 209 in 2008. However, in 2009 and 2010 the number of completions returned to similar levels experienced earlier in the decade. Health Sciences completions were even more volatile, oscillating from year-to-year and reaching a peak in 2008 (132 degrees). Completions in 2009 dropped to the same number as in 2001 before rising at the end of the decade. Associate's Degree completions in Business went from just 28 in 2000 to a decade high of 75 in 2002, then to a low of 14 in 2006 before ending the decade with nearly continuous year-over-year growth.

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

