Central Mass and Massachusetts have similar concentrations of Bachelor’s Degrees in most major fields of study, with the largest number in Arts, Humanities, & Social Services. The major difference is the region’s much higher concentration in the Science, Engineering, Technology, and Mathematics (STEM) fields (Engineering & Computer Sciences and Science & Mathematics majors), mostly due to a much higher concentration in Engineering & Computer Sciences (12.5 percent) than in Massachusetts (7.7 percent). And while Central Mass and Massachusetts have had similar annual rates of growth in Bachelor’s Degree completions (2.1 percent) over the course of the decade, they have differed by fields of study. While the region and state had similar annual rates of growth in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences in the past decade, the annual growth in Bachelor’s Degree completions in Central Mass has been strongest in the Business (4.6 percent) and Services (8.0 percent) degrees, whereas in Massachusetts the stronger annual growth has been in Science & Mathematics (2.8 percent) and Health Sciences (2.0 percent) degrees.

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