BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY (2000-2010)

More than three-quarters of the Bachelor's Degrees produced by institutions in Metro South/West are in two fields of study: Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences (44.7 percent) and Business (32.3 percent). The share of Business graduates in the region is notably higher than the share in Massachusetts as a whole (32.3 percent versus 19.1 percent). In contrast with Massachusetts, the institutions in the region have lower concentrations of degrees in the Science, Engineering, Technology, and Mathematics (STEM) fields (Engineering & Computer Sciences and Science & Mathematics majors). The largest growth in Bachelor's Degrees in Metro South/West came from an increase in Health Sciences degrees, which more than doubled from 133 degrees in 2000 to 311 in 2010 to account for 4.3 percent of all Bachelor's Degrees in the region. While this was stronger than the increase statewide, there was also strong growth in the number of Health Sciences majors in Massachusetts over the course of the decade.

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

	Metro South/West				Massachusetts			
	2000		2010		2000		2010	
Major Field of Study	Bachelor's Completed	Major's Share of Total (Percent)						
Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences	2,795	45.8	3,208	44.7	18,891	44.6	23,405	44.8
Business	2,004	32.8	2,320	32.3	7,596	17.9	9,990	19.1
Science & Mathematics	430	7.0	634	8.8	3,818	9.0	5,054	9.7
Engineering & Computer Sciences	231	3.8	224	3.1	3,726	8.8	3,997	7.7
Health Sciences	133	2.2	311	4.3	2,938	6.9	3,589	6.9
Services	49	0.8	78	1.1	2,495	5.9	3,170	6.1
Education	292	4.8	167	2.3	1,922	4.5	1,362	2.6
Legal	16	0.3	8	0.1	176	0.4	190	0.4
Other	154	2.5	228	3.2	797	1.9	1,466	2.8
Total	6,104	100.0	7,178	100.0	42,376	100.0	52,223	100.0