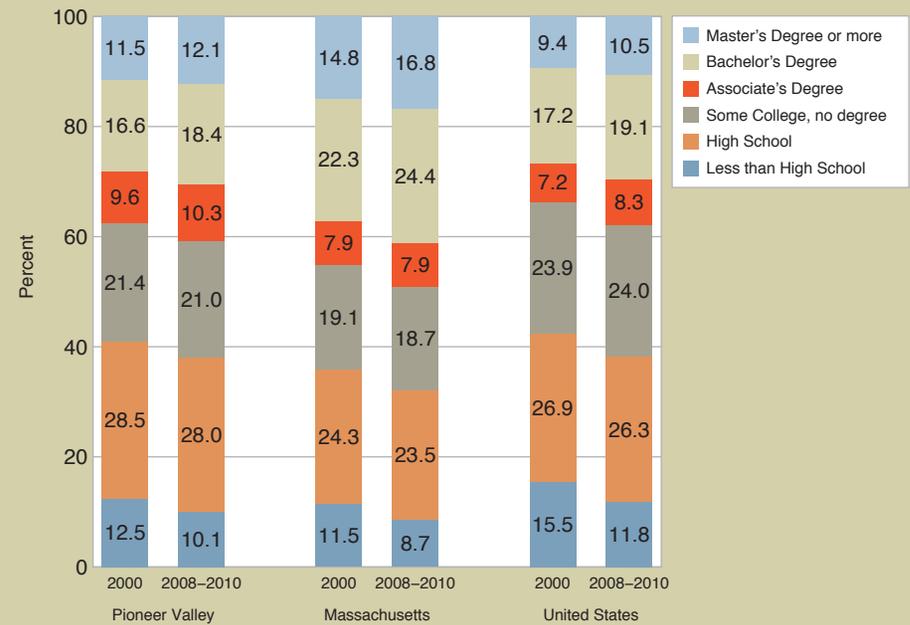


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

When looking at those actually participating in the labor force, we see somewhat higher levels of educational attainment. And much like the region's working-age population, the civilian labor force in Pioneer Valley has had progressively stronger growth at each higher level of educational attainment. By 2008–2010, 30.5 percent of the Pioneer Valley labor force had a Bachelor's Degree or higher, trailing the 41.2 percent in Massachusetts. However, 61.8 percent of the civilian labor force in Pioneer Valley had completed at least some post-secondary education (Some College or higher). This trailed the nearly 68 percent of Massachusetts labor force who had some post-secondary education but was identical to the 61.8 percent rate nationwide. While educational attainment increased over the course of the decade, the most common level of educational attainment among the civilian labor force in the region continued to be a High School Degree (28.0 percent in 2008–2010).

**Source:** US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files and 2008–2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Educational Distribution of the Civilian Labor Force, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Civilian Labor Force Population by Educational Attainment in Pioneer Valley

	2000	2008–2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Less than High School	43,531	36,718	-6,813	-1.9
High School Graduate	99,351	102,076	2,725	0.3
Some College, no degree	74,523	76,508	1,985	0.3
Associate's Degree	33,331	37,413	4,082	1.3
Bachelor's Degree	57,777	67,035	9,258	1.7
Master's Degree or more	40,145	44,184	4,039	1.1