ANNUAL COMPLETIONS BY TOP FIVE BACHELOR’S DEGREE MAJORS IN PIONEER VALLEY (2000–2010)

While the growth of Bachelor’s Degrees completions in Pioneer Valley has been fairly consistent over the past decade, growth in the region’s largest majors has varied over the years. The share of students completing Bachelor’s Degree in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences increased at a more rapid pace in the first half of the decade (3.5 percent annually) before leveling off in the second half, yielding only slightly more degrees completed in this field in 2010 than in 2005. The share of students earning Services degrees grew between 2000 and 2005 (4.1 percent annually), but the number declined through the end of the decade (0.2 percent annually). Conversely, Health Sciences degree completions declined through the first half of the decade (–4.9 percent annually) but grew at a robust 8.1 percent annually between 2005 and 2010. The share of students earning Business and Science & Mathematics degrees were virtually unchanged in the first half of the decade, but grew at robust annual rates of 5.7 percent and 6.5 percent, respectively, between 2005 and 2010.