GROWTH IN POTENTIAL SUPPLY OF EDUCATED WORKERS: PART-TIME ENROLLMENT TRENDS IN THE PAST DECADE

The majority of part-time enrollees at post-secondary educational institutions are in public two-year institutions. In the Southeast region, part-time enrollment at public two-year institutions increased at a sluggish annual rate of 0.9 percent between 2000 and 2010. As such, the region’s enrollment growth lagged behind the rates in Massachusetts and the United States. Reflecting a similar pattern as Massachusetts, part-time enrollment in both public and private four-year institutions in the Southeast region declined over the past decade, while growing nationwide. The fastest growth in part-time enrollment occurred at less-than-two-year institutions. And while a majority of such enrollees are at private institutions, most of the region’s growth actually came from rising public enrollment. In contrast, growth in part-time enrollment at less-than-two-year institutions came almost exclusively from private institutions in Massachusetts and the United States.