

ANNUAL COMPLETIONS BY TOP FIVE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE MAJORS IN THE SOUTHEAST REGION (2000-2010)

While the number of students earning Associate's Degrees in the largest majors increased over the course of the decade in the Southeast region, degree completions in such fields were somewhat varied over the years. The number of completions in Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences and Health Sciences increased at a more rapid pace in the first half of the decade before dropping off between 2005 and 2007 and then increasing through the end of the decade. In comparison, Services degree completions increased at a more modest annual rate (3.4 percent) between 2000 and 2005, before increasing at the fastest annual rate of the largest fields of study (8.3 percent) between 2005 and 2010. Such volatility actually resulted in the region producing fewer Associate's Degrees in 2009 than in 2005 in nearly all major fields of study, with the exception of Services. In fact, without the large increase in Health Sciences degree completions between 2009 and 2010, the Southeast region would have produced fewer Associate's Degrees in 2010 than in 2005.

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

