

**Employment and Education Indicators for 16-21  
Year Old Young Adult Residents of Communities  
in Regional Competitiveness Councils and Local  
Workforce Investment Areas in Massachusetts, 2000**

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## Introduction

During the past few months, the Center for Labor Market Studies of Northeastern University has been engaged in a diverse array of research activities to construct educational, employment, income, and social indicators for the young adult population (16-21 and 16-24) to guide the formulation of youth workforce development policies for the Commonwealth. This report provides key findings from our analysis of the 2000 Census data on the incidence of school dropout problems and employment rates among the resident 16- to 21-year old population of the state, seven Regional Competitiveness Councils, and 16 Local Workforce Investment Areas.

The first educational indicator represents the share of 16- to 21-year olds in each geographic area who were not enrolled in school at the time of the Census and who had not received a regular high school diploma or a GED certificate.<sup>1</sup> Given the substantial labor market and income difficulties experienced by young and older adults with no high school diploma and the national Department of Labor's emphasis on serving young dropouts in WIA older youth programs, we believe that this particular educational outcome measure would be desirable. It should be noted, however, that this outcome measure is not equivalent to a "high school dropout rate." Some of the 16-21 year olds who are still enrolled in high school will not graduate with a regular diploma, and some of the out-of-school 16- to 21-year olds classified as "high school graduates" have GED's rather than a regular high school diploma. In coding the 2000 census data on educational attainment, the U.S. Bureau of the Census does not distinguish a GED or other alternative diploma from a regular high school diploma.

The estimates of the share of 16- to 21-year olds who were not enrolled in school and did not hold a regular diploma or GED are provided for the state as a whole, for the seven recently established Regional Competitiveness Councils, and for the 16 local areas operating under the Workforce Investment Act. The geographic breakout of the data on the PUMS data files were matched as closely as possible to these RCC and WIB areas across the state. For each area, we also provided estimates of educational outcomes for the following mutually exclusive race-ethnic groups:

- ◆ Asian, non-Hispanic
- ◆ Black, non-Hispanic
- ◆ Hispanic
- ◆ White, non-Hispanic

A second performance indicator appearing in this report is the employment rate for selected educational subgroups of 16- to 21-year olds. The employment rate represents the share of 16- to 21-year olds in the civilian, non-institutional population who were employed at the time of the 2000 census; i.e., primarily late March and early April of 2000. Employment rates were estimated for the state, the seven RCC areas, and 16 local Workforce Investment Boards. These employment rates were estimated separately for each of the following educational groups of 16- to 21-year olds:

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<sup>1</sup> The data on this indicator are derived from the long-form questionnaires that were used in conducting the 2000 Census. One of the questions asked whether the individual had been enrolled "in a regular school" anytime since February 1, 2000.

- ◆ High school students
- ◆ Not enrolled, 16- to 21-year olds
- ◆ Not enrolled, 16- to 21-year old high school dropouts
- ◆ Not enrolled 16- to 21-year old high school graduates, (with no postsecondary schooling)
- ◆ Not enrolled 16- to 21-year olds with some postsecondary schooling

An alphabetical listing of the 16 local Workforce Investment Boards and Regional Competitiveness Councils is presented in the table 1 below.

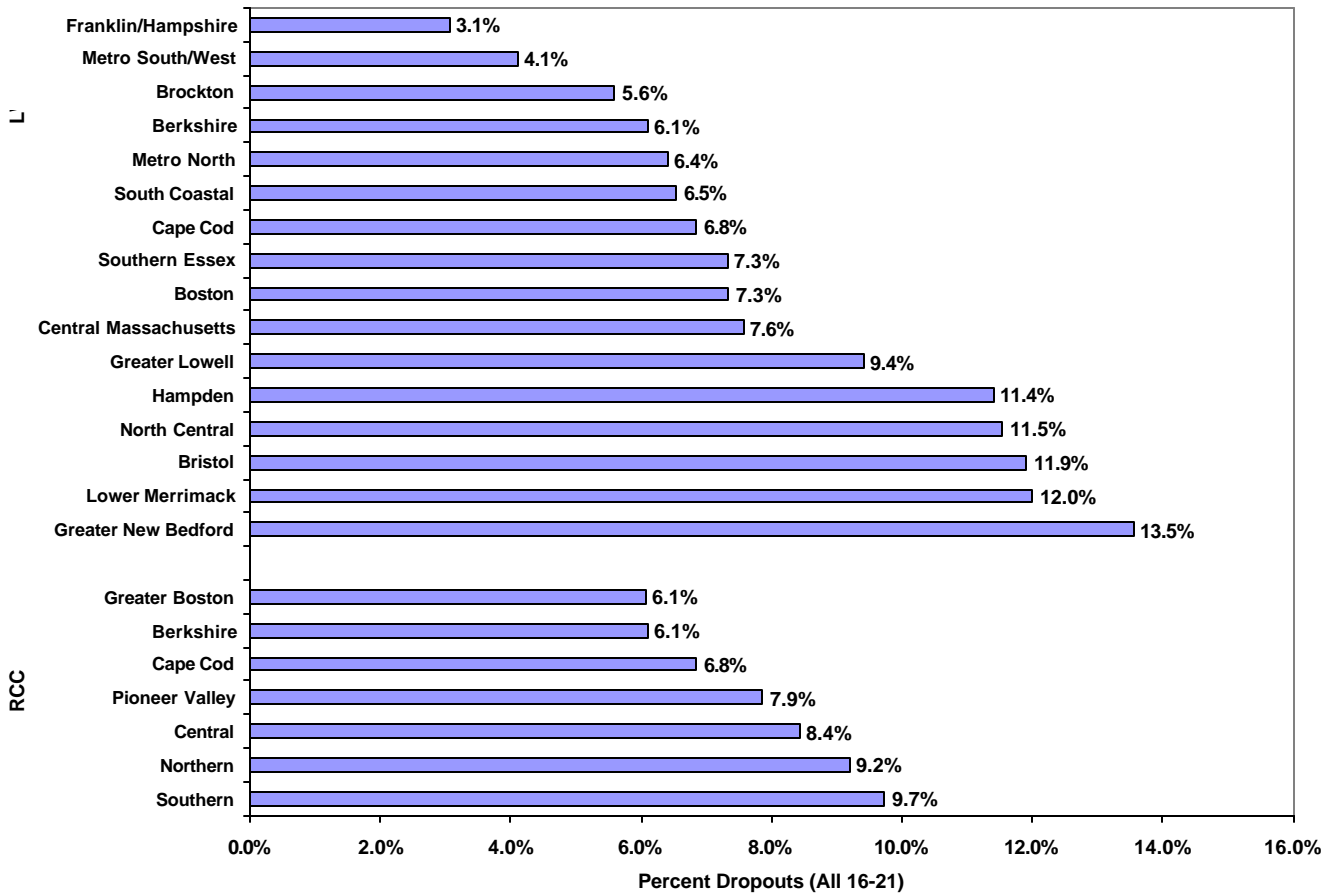
Table 1: Alphabetical Listing of the 16 Workforce Investment Boards and 7 Regional Competitiveness Councils in Massachusetts

Local Workforce Investment Boards	Regional Competitiveness Councils
Berkshire	Berkshire
Boston	Cape Cod
Bristol	Coastal
Brockton	Greater Boston
Cape Cod	Northern
Central Massachusetts	Pioneer Valley
Franklin/Hampshire	Southern
Greater New Bedford	
Greater Lowell	
Hampden	
Lower Merrimack	
Metro North	
Metro South/West	
North Central	
South Coastal	
Southern Essex	

## **Educational Indicator #1**

Percent of 16- to 21-Year Old Residents who were Not Enrolled  
in School and Who Did Not Possess a Regular High School  
Diploma or GED Certificate

Percent of 16- to 21-Year Old Civilians who were High School Dropouts, 2000

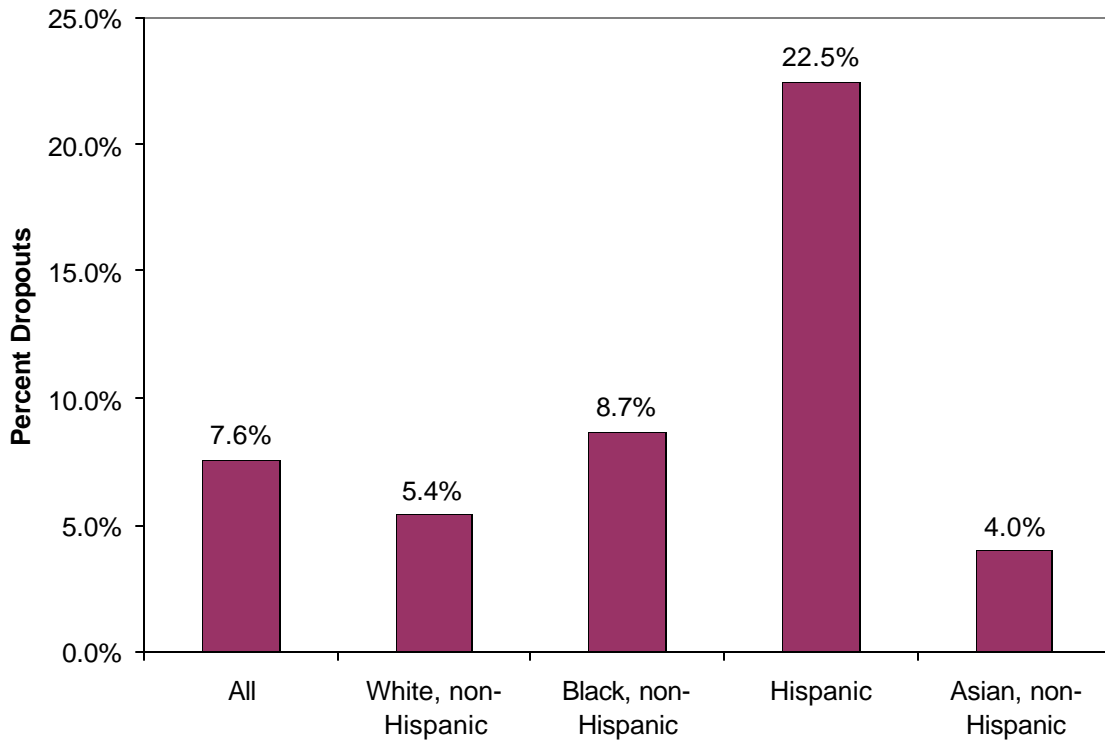


- ◆ Dropouts accounted for nearly 8 percent of the state’s 16- to 21-year old population. In the communities of the Northern and Southern competitiveness councils, nearly one of every ten 16- to 21-year old individuals had dropped out of high school at the time of the 2000 Census.
- ◆ The share of dropouts among 16-21 year olds varied widely across LWIBs. The highest share was in the Greater New Bedford LWIB where nearly 1 out of 7 16- to 21-year old youth had not graduated from high school and were not enrolled in school in the spring of 2000.
- ◆ The lowest dropout share was in the Metro South/West LWIB where only 1 out of 25 young adults between the ages of 16 and 21 had failed to complete high school or obtain a GED.

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

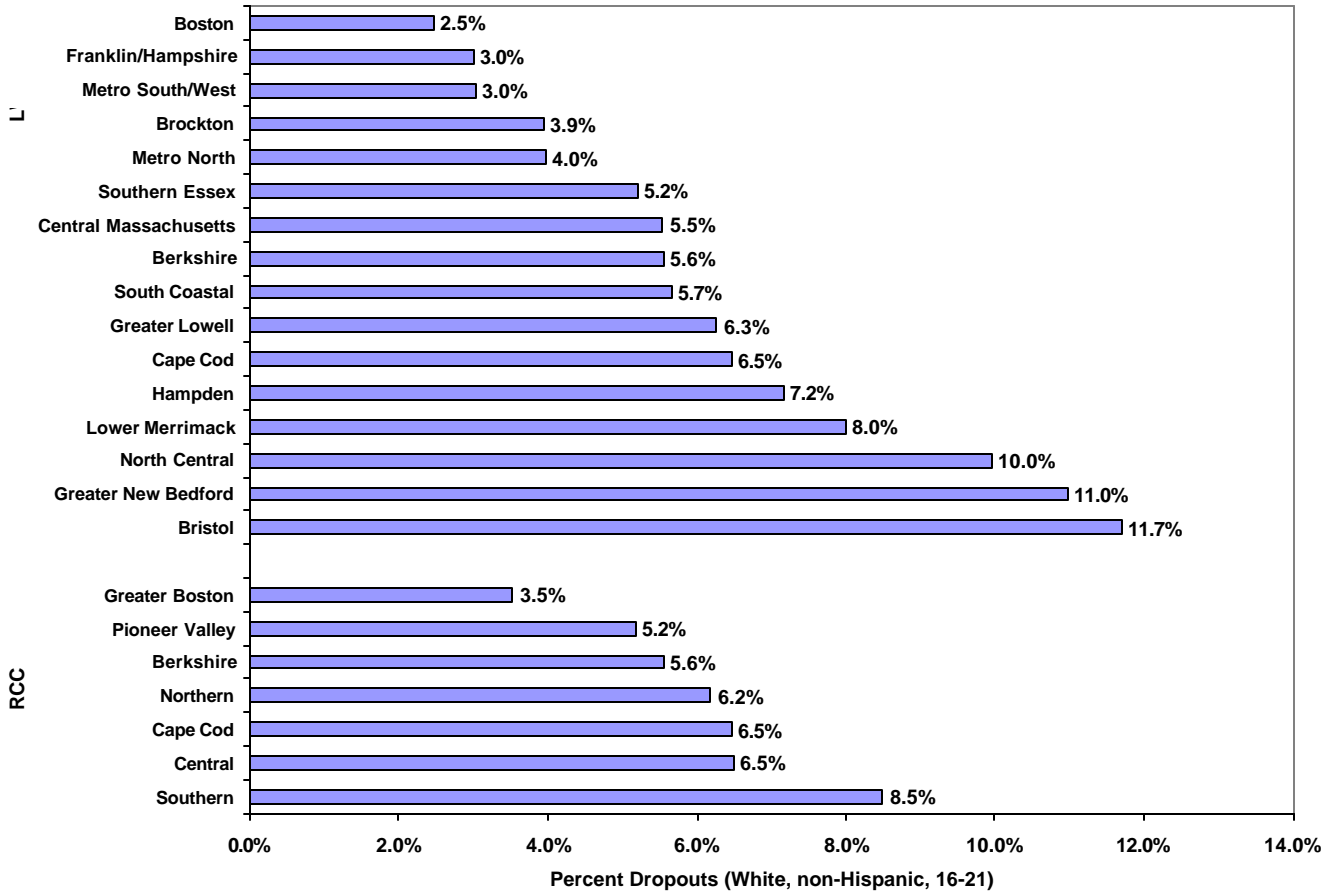
	Total 16-21	Number Dropouts	Percent Dropouts
Massachusetts	498,546	37,808	7.6%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	9,715	592	6.1%
Cape Cod	13,946	955	6.8%
Central	51,033	4,299	8.4%
Greater Boston	205,495	12,458	6.1%
Northern	73,706	6,777	9.2%
Pioneer Valley	72,365	5,692	7.9%
Southern	72,286	7,035	9.7%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	9,715	592	6.1%
Boston	64,670	4,748	7.3%
Bristol	25,603	3,050	11.9%
Brockton	22,066	1,234	5.6%
Cape Cod	13,946	955	6.8%
Central Massachusetts	40,125	3,040	7.6%
Franklin/Hampshire	30,718	943	3.1%
Greater Lowell	21,435	2,019	9.4%
Greater New Bedford	14,793	2,004	13.5%
Hampden	41,647	4,749	11.4%
Lower Merrimack	19,917	2,390	12.0%
Metro North	62,742	4,024	6.4%
Metro South/West	54,044	2,219	4.1%
North Central	10,908	1,259	11.5%
South Coastal	33,863	2,214	6.5%
Southern Essex	32,354	2,368	7.3%

Percent of 16- to 21-Year Old Civilians in Massachusetts who were High School Dropouts, by Race-Ethnic Origin, 2000



- ◆ There were sharp differences in the share of dropouts among 16- to 21-year old individuals by their race-ethnic characteristics.
- ◆ Dropouts accounted for only 4 percent of all non-Hispanic Asian youth and 5.4 percent of non-Hispanic White youth; but they represented for 8.7 percent of non-Hispanic Black young adults. The Hispanic youth population had the highest share of dropouts—22.5 percent—over 5 times higher than Asians, twice as high as Black youth, and 5 times the share of dropouts among White youth.

## Proportion of 16-21 Year Old White non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

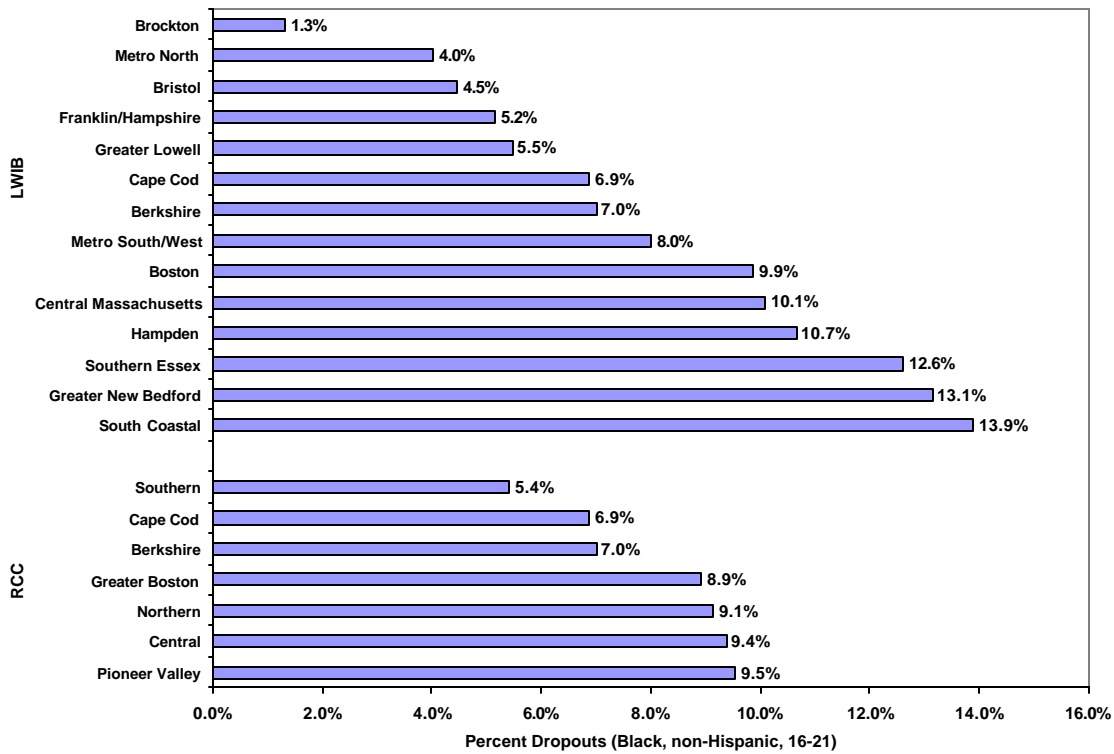


- ◆ Statewide, only 1 out of 20 non-Hispanic White young adults between 16 and 21 years old had dropped out of high school. In the Southern region’s competitiveness council, nearly one of twelve 16- to 21-year old individuals had dropped out of high school.
- ◆ Among LWIBs, the highest shares of dropouts among non-Hispanic White young adults were in the Bristol, Greater New Bedford, and North Central areas, where 10 to 12 percent of these youth had failed to complete high school.

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old White non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

	Total 16-21, White non- Hispanic	Number Dropouts	Percent Dropouts
Massachusetts	368,940	20,019	5.4%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	8,592	477	5.6%
Cape Cod	12,292	795	6.5%
Central	41,671	2,703	6.5%
Greater Boston	139,234	4,915	3.5%
Northern	55,163	3,410	6.2%
Pioneer Valley	54,191	2,809	5.2%
Southern	57,797	4,910	8.5%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	8,592	477	5.6%
Boston	31,125	765	2.5%
Bristol	21,390	2,501	11.7%
Brockton	16,452	648	3.9%
Cape Cod	12,292	795	6.5%
Central Massachusetts	32,748	1,815	5.5%
Franklin/Hampshire	25,797	775	3.0%
Greater Lowell	16,253	1,018	6.3%
Greater New Bedford	10,888	1,194	11.0%
Hampden	28,394	2,034	7.2%
Lower Merrimack	13,147	1,050	8.0%
Metro North	43,812	1,736	4.0%
Metro South/West	44,467	1,344	3.0%
North Central	8,923	888	10.0%
South Coastal	28,897	1,637	5.7%
Southern Essex	25,763	1,342	5.2%

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Black non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000  
 (Chart excludes any area with fewer than 400 Black non-Hispanic 16-21 Year Olds)

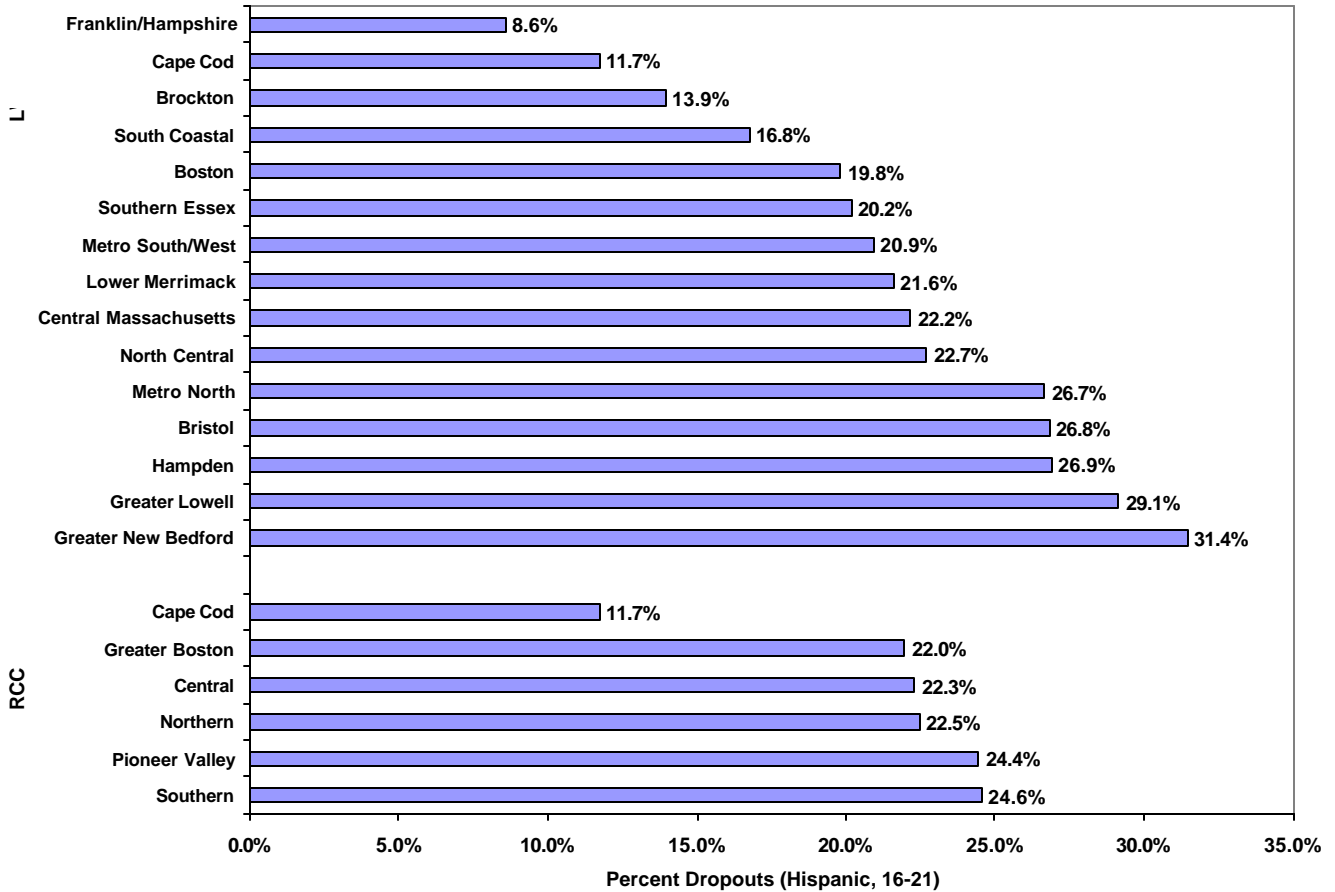


- ◆ Statewide, approximately 1 out of 11 Black non-Hispanic young adults had dropped out of high school.
- ◆ Dropouts accounted for over 9 percent of the young adult Black population in four competitiveness councils. The remaining three (Berkshire, Cape Cod, and Southern) councils had below average shares of black dropouts.
- ◆ Young black residents were highly concentrated in just a few LWIBs. The Boston WIB area had nearly 14,000 young Black residents and a dropout rate of nearly 10 percent. Although the Hampden and Metro North boards had over 3,000 young Black residents each, the dropout share in the former board was 11 percent versus only 4 percent in the latter area.
- ◆ The Central Massachusetts and Brockton LWIBs both had 1,600 young black residents each but sharply different shares of dropouts—only 1 percent in the Brockton area versus over 10 percent in the Central Massachusetts board. The young adult Black population in the Brockton area was much younger and therefore more likely to be enrolled in school. Nearly 60 percent of Brockton area’s Black 16-21 year old youth were between the ages of 16 and 17 compared to 52 percent in the state. School enrollment rate among Black youth (16-21 years old) in the Brockton area was 91 percent versus 77 percent statewide.

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Black non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

	Total 16-21, Black non- Hispanic	Number Dropouts	Percent Dropouts
Massachusetts	31,586	2,739	8.7%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	400	28	7.0%
Cape Cod	349	24	6.9%
Central	1,857	174	9.4%
Greater Boston	20,345	1,817	8.9%
Northern	1,716	157	9.1%
Pioneer Valley	3,969	379	9.5%
Southern	2,950	160	5.4%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	400	28	7.0%
Boston	13,773	1,361	9.9%
Bristol	719	32	4.5%
Brockton	1,597	21	1.3%
Cape Cod	349	24	6.9%
Central Massachusetts	1,588	160	10.1%
Franklin/Hampshire	796	41	5.2%
Greater Lowell	476	26	5.5%
Greater New Bedford	449	59	13.1%
Hampden	3,173	338	10.7%
Lower Merrimack	201	0	0.0%
Metro North	3,219	129	4.0%
Metro South/West	1,977	158	8.0%
North Central	269	14	5.2%
South Coastal	1,561	217	13.9%
Southern Essex	1,039	131	12.6%

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000  
 (Chart excludes any area with fewer than 400 Hispanic 16-21 Year Olds)

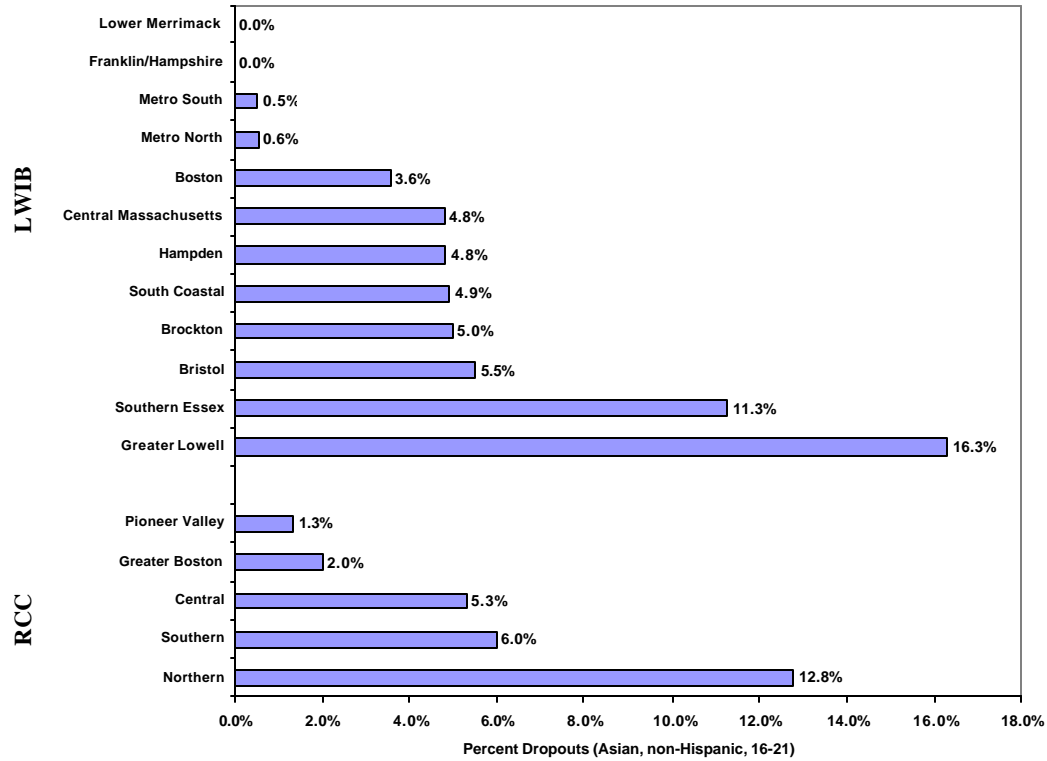


- ◆ The highest share of dropouts among the four race-ethnic subgroups was among Hispanic youth. Statewide, the dropout share among Hispanic youth was over 22 percent.
- ◆ Across RCCs, the Hispanic dropout shares varied from nearly one-quarter in the Southern and Pioneer Valley councils and 22 to 23 percent in the Northern, Central, and Greater Boston councils to a low of 12 percent among Hispanic young residents of communities in the Cape Cod council area.
- ◆ Dropouts accounted for nearly one-third of Hispanic 16- to 21-year old residents of the Greater New Bedford LWIB area. The Greater Lowell, Hampden, Bristol, and Metro North LWIBs had between 26 percent and 29 percent of Hispanic young adults who had failed to complete high school. Although the Franklin/Hampshire area had the lowest share of Hispanic dropouts among all boards, nearly 1 out of 9 Hispanic young adult residents of these communities had failed to complete high school.

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

	Total 16-21, Hispanic	Number Dropouts	Percent Dropouts
Massachusetts	50,992	11,481	22.5%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	352	0	0.0%
Cape Cod	495	58	11.7%
Central	4,973	1,109	22.3%
Greater Boston	20,541	4,511	22.0%
Northern	11,144	2,502	22.5%
Pioneer Valley	9,479	2,317	24.4%
Southern	4,008	984	24.6%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	352	0	0.0%
Boston	10,391	2,059	19.8%
Bristol	1,450	389	26.8%
Brockton	1,226	171	13.9%
Cape Cod	495	58	11.7%
Central Massachusetts	3,718	824	22.2%
Franklin/Hampshire	1,271	109	8.6%
Greater Lowell	1,887	550	29.1%
Greater New Bedford	1,161	365	31.4%
Hampden	8,208	2,208	26.9%
Lower Merrimack	5,876	1,270	21.6%
Metro North	6,676	1,780	26.7%
Metro South/West	2,875	602	20.9%
North Central	1,255	285	22.7%
South Coastal	770	129	16.8%
Southern Essex	3,381	682	20.2%

Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Asian non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000  
 (Chart excludes any area with fewer than 400 Asian, non-Hispanic 16-21 Year Olds)



- ◆ Asian youth had a very low likelihood of dropping out of high school. Statewide, only 4 percent of 16- to 21-year old Asian youth failed to complete high school.
- ◆ The Asian dropout share was low in most LWIBs and RCCs. The highest share of dropouts was among young Asian residents of the Northern competitiveness council, where nearly 13 percent of this group had dropped out of high school.
- ◆ Among LWIBs, young Asians residing in communities that make up the Greater Lowell and Southern Essex planning area had the highest likelihood of dropping out of high school. The share of dropouts among Asians in these two areas was 16 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

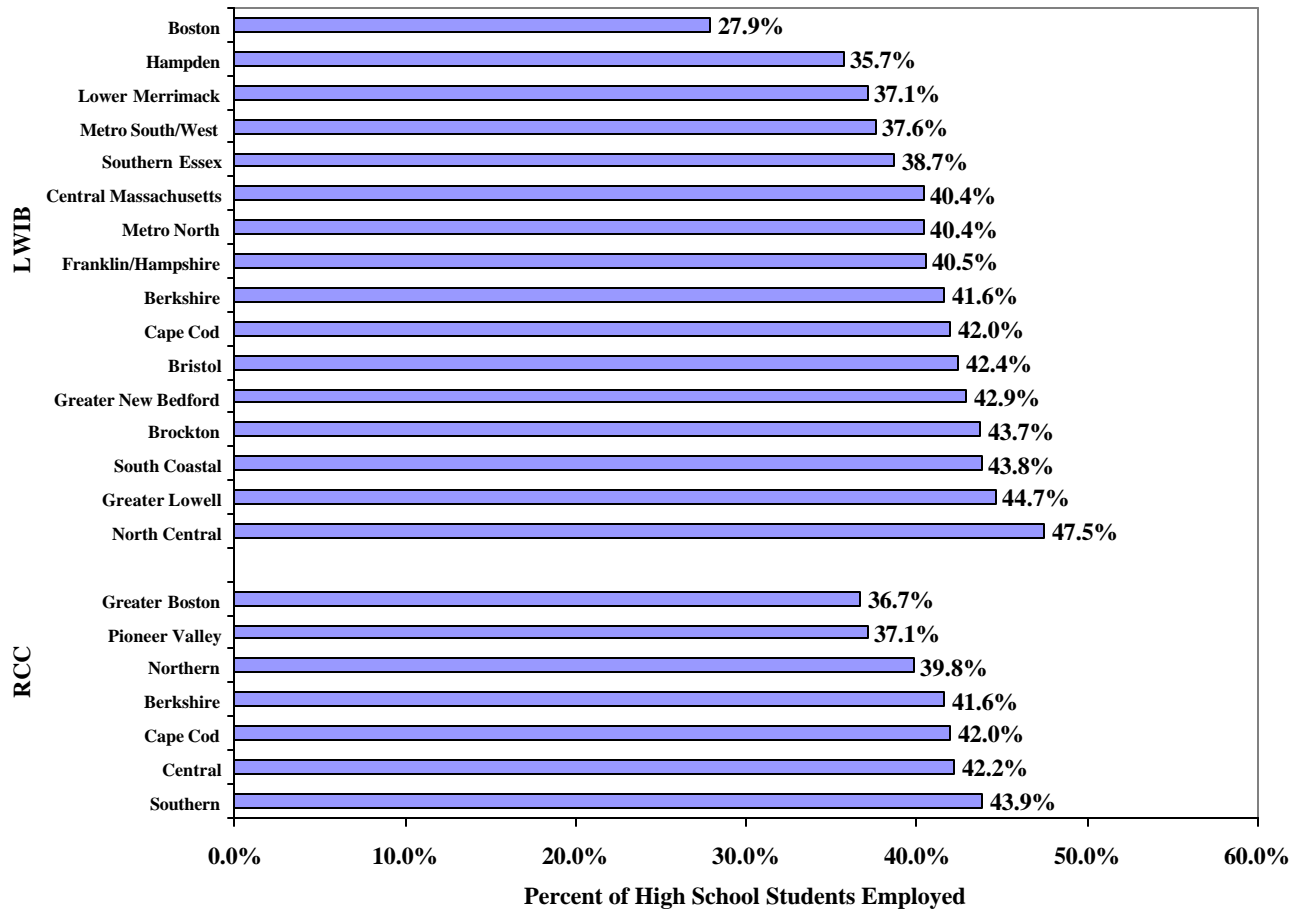
Proportion of 16-21 Year Old Asian non-Hispanic Civilians who were Dropouts, 2000

	Total 16-21, Asian non- Hispanic	Number Dropouts	Percent Dropouts
Massachusetts	26,401	1,051	4.0%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	201	16	8.0%
Cape Cod	96	0	0.0%
Central	1,660	88	5.3%
Greater Boston	16,510	330	2.0%
Northern	3,903	499	12.8%
Pioneer Valley	2,648	35	1.3%
Southern	1,383	83	6.0%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	201	16	8.0%
Boston	5,759	205	3.6%
Bristol	783	43	5.5%
Brockton	481	24	5.0%
Cape Cod	96	0	0.0%
Central Massachusetts	1,435	69	4.8%
Franklin/Hampshire	1,922	0	0.0%
Greater Lowell	2,077	339	16.3%
Greater New Bedford	88	16	18.2%
Hampden	726	35	4.8%
Lower Merrimack	408	0	0.0%
Metro North	6,246	35	0.6%
Metro South/West	3,034	16	0.5%
North Central	225	19	8.4%
South Coastal	1,502	74	4.9%
Southern Essex	1,418	160	11.3%

## **Labor Market Indicator #1**

Percent of 16-21 Year Old Residents who were  
Employed at the Time of the 2000 Census

## The Employment Rate of Civilian Working Age (16+) High School Students, 2000

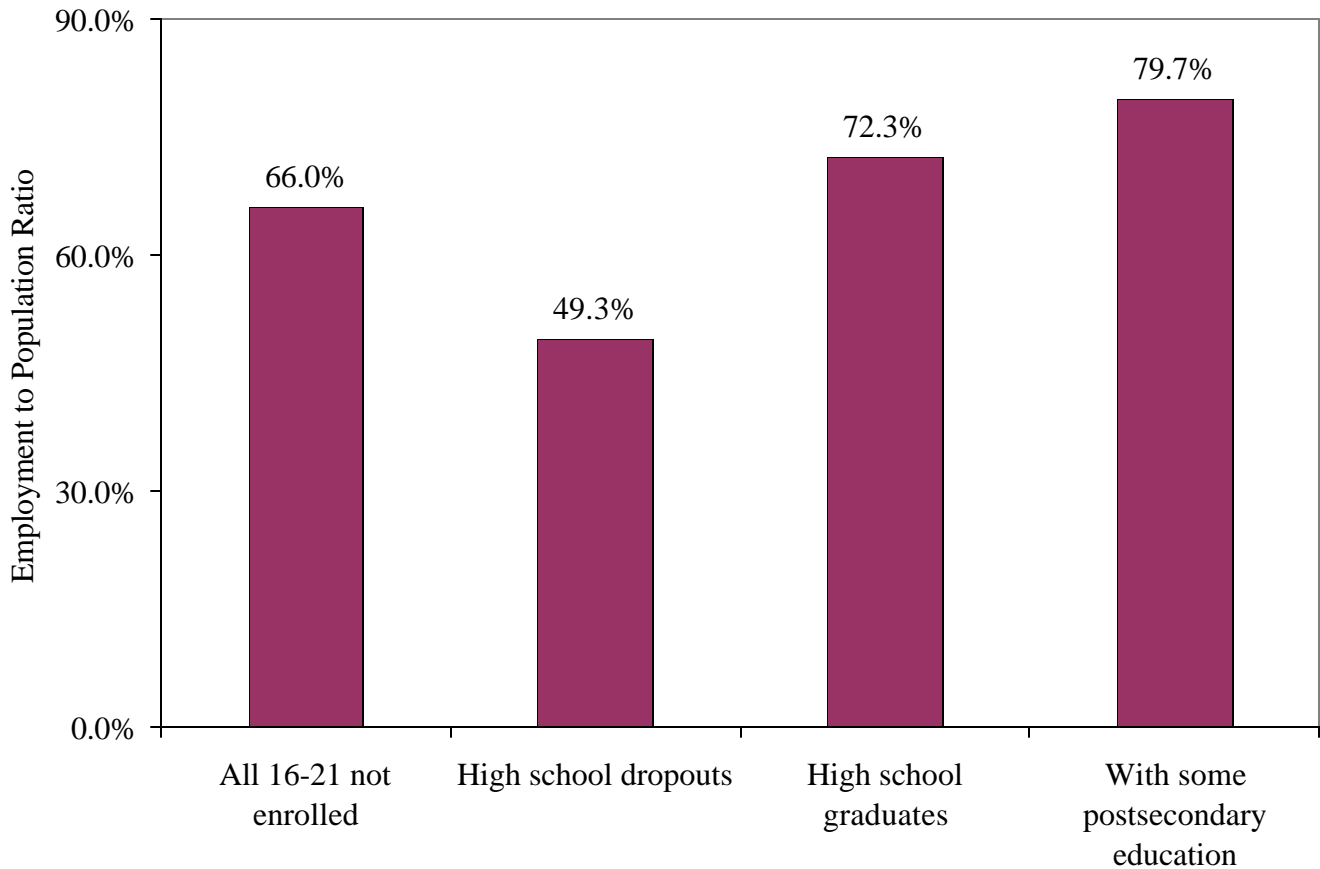


- ◆ Slightly fewer than 40 out of 100 working-age high school students across the state were employed at the time of the 2000 decennial census.
- ◆ The employment rate among high school students varied widely across the 16 workforce investment boards and 7 competitiveness councils. There was a 20-percentage point gap between the employment rate of high school students residing in communities of the Boston and the North Central workforce investment boards. Only 28 percent of high school students were employed in Boston versus 48 percent in the latter area.
- ◆ The employment rates of high school students across the seven competitiveness councils varied from a high of 44 percent in the Southern council to 37 percent in the Greater Boston regional council.

The Employment Rates of Civilian Working Age (16 Years and Older) High School Students, 2000

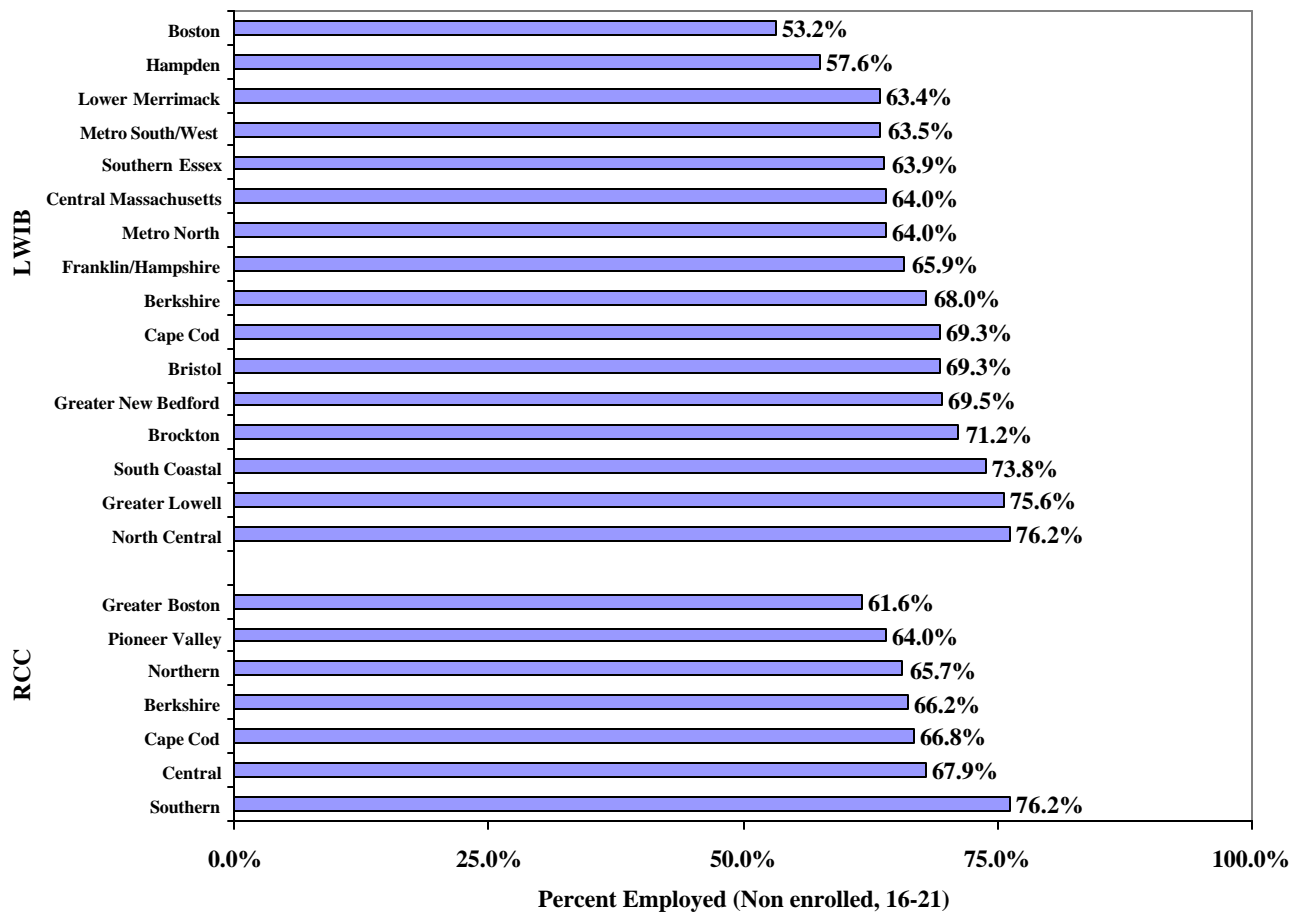
	Number of 16+ High School Students	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Massachusetts	211,228	83,003	39.3%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	4,288	1,784	41.6%
Cape Cod	7,889	3,313	42.0%
Central	21,449	9,048	42.2%
Greater Boston	81,483	29,935	36.7%
Northern	36,912	14,707	39.8%
Pioneer Valley	26,100	9,686	37.1%
Southern	33,107	14,530	43.9%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	4,288	1,784	41.6%
Boston	19,589	5,470	27.9%
Bristol	12,038	5,109	42.4%
Brockton	9,694	4,241	43.7%
Cape Cod	7,889	3,313	42.0%
Central Massachusetts	16,007	6,463	40.4%
Franklin/Hampshire	7,689	3,116	40.5%
Greater Lowell	9,784	4,369	44.7%
Greater New Bedford	6,106	2,622	42.9%
Hampden	18,411	6,570	35.7%
Lower Merrimack	10,406	3,864	37.1%
Metro North	22,379	9,045	40.4%
Metro South/West	26,479	9,957	37.6%
North Central	5,442	2,585	47.5%
South Coastal	18,305	8,021	43.8%
Southern Essex	16,722	6,474	38.7%

The Employment to Population Ratios of 16- to 21-Year Non Enrolled Civilians in Massachusetts, by Educational Attainment, 2000



- ◆ Among 16- to 21-year old young adults who were not enrolled in school, employment rates were closely associated with their level of educational attainment. Nearly two-thirds of this group was employed at the time of the 2000 decennial census.
- ◆ The employment rate of high school dropouts was only 49 percent, indicating that slightly over one-half of these youngsters were disconnected—out of school and jobless. The likelihood of employment rises considerably as education increases. The employment rate of high school graduates was over 72 percent and nearly 80 percent of young adults who had completed some postsecondary schooling were employed.

## The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Civilians Not Enrolled in School, 2000

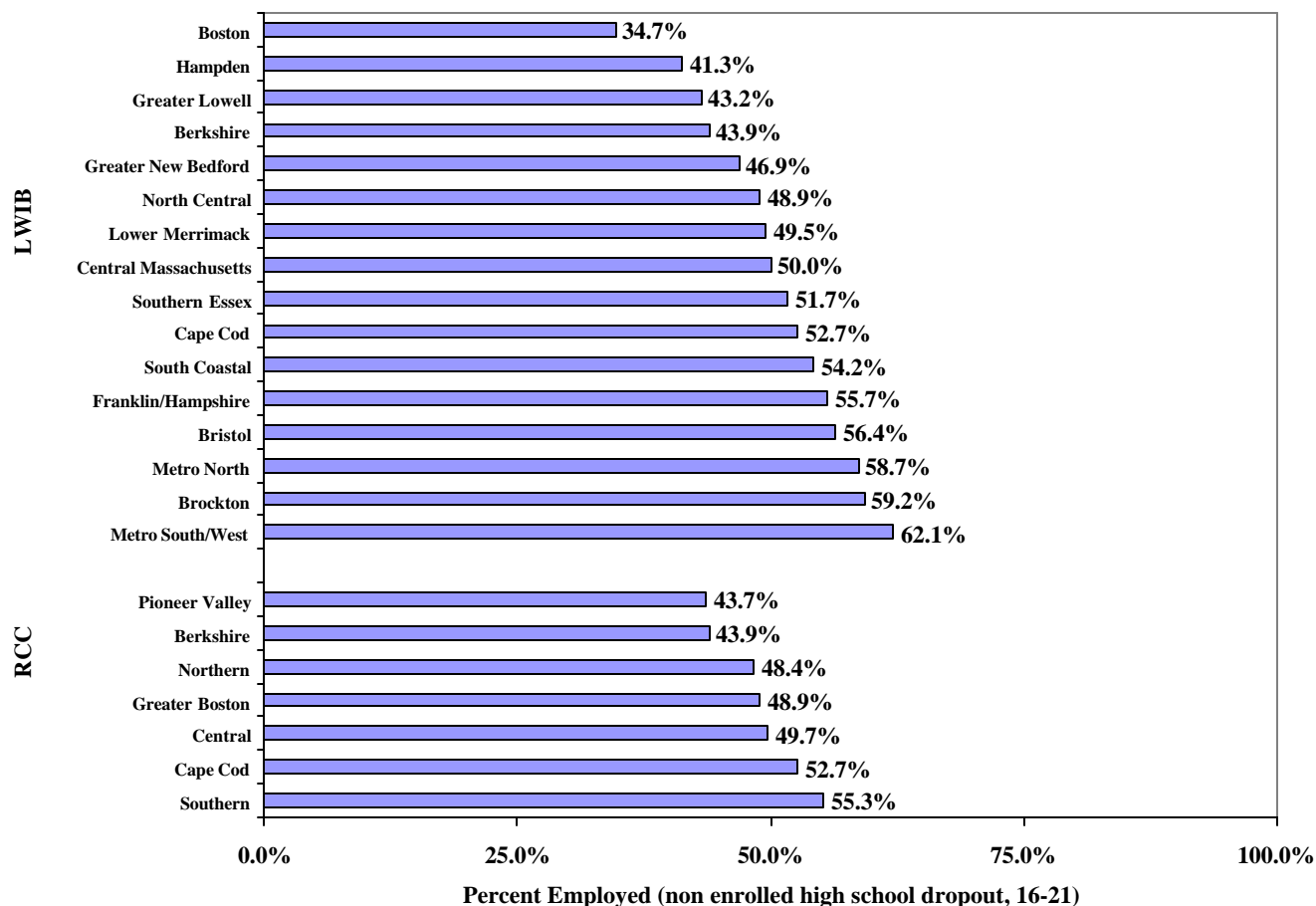


- ◆ Statewide, the employment rate of young adults between the ages of 16 and 21 was 66 percent. The remaining one-third were jobless and out of school.
- ◆ Across the seven competitiveness councils, the employment rates of these young adults varied from a high of 76 in the Southern council to a low of 62 percent in communities that comprise the Greater Boston regional council.
- ◆ Fairly substantial variations in the employment rates of out-of-school young adults existed across workforce investment boards. Nearly three-quarters of these youth residing in communities across the North Central, Greater Lowell, and South Coastal boards were employed. Seven out of ten young adult residents of the Greater Bedford, Bristol, and Brockton boards were employed.
- ◆ The employment rates of non-enrolled young adults in the Boston and Hampden WIB areas were far below the state average. Only 53 percent of out-of-school young adults in Boston and 58 percent of their counterparts in the Hampden board were employed. High fractions of youth in these areas were disconnected from the educational system and the labor market.

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Civilians Not Enrolled in School, 2000

	Total 16-21, Not Enrolled in School	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Massachusetts	112,654	74,329	66.0%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	2,219	1,420	64.0%
Cape Cod	3,845	2,931	76.2%
Central	12,983	8,813	67.9%
Greater Boston	38,934	25,588	65.7%
Northern	18,350	12,252	66.8%
Pioneer Valley	15,645	9,640	61.6%
Southern	20,678	13,685	66.2%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	2,219	1,420	64.0%
Boston	12,575	6,691	53.2%
Bristol	8,060	5,308	65.9%
Brockton	5,297	3,602	68.0%
Cape Cod	3,845	2,931	76.2%
Central Massachusetts	9,874	6,840	69.3%
Franklin/Hampshire	3,889	2,872	73.8%
Greater Lowell	5,725	3,631	63.4%
Greater New Bedford	4,608	2,950	64.0%
Hampden	11,756	6,768	57.6%
Lower Merrimack	5,013	3,203	63.9%
Metro North	12,545	8,694	69.3%
Metro South/West	8,798	6,653	75.6%
North Central	3,109	1,973	63.5%
South Coastal	7,729	5,375	69.5%
Southern Essex	7,612	5,418	71.2%

### The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Civilian Non Enrolled High School Dropouts, 2000

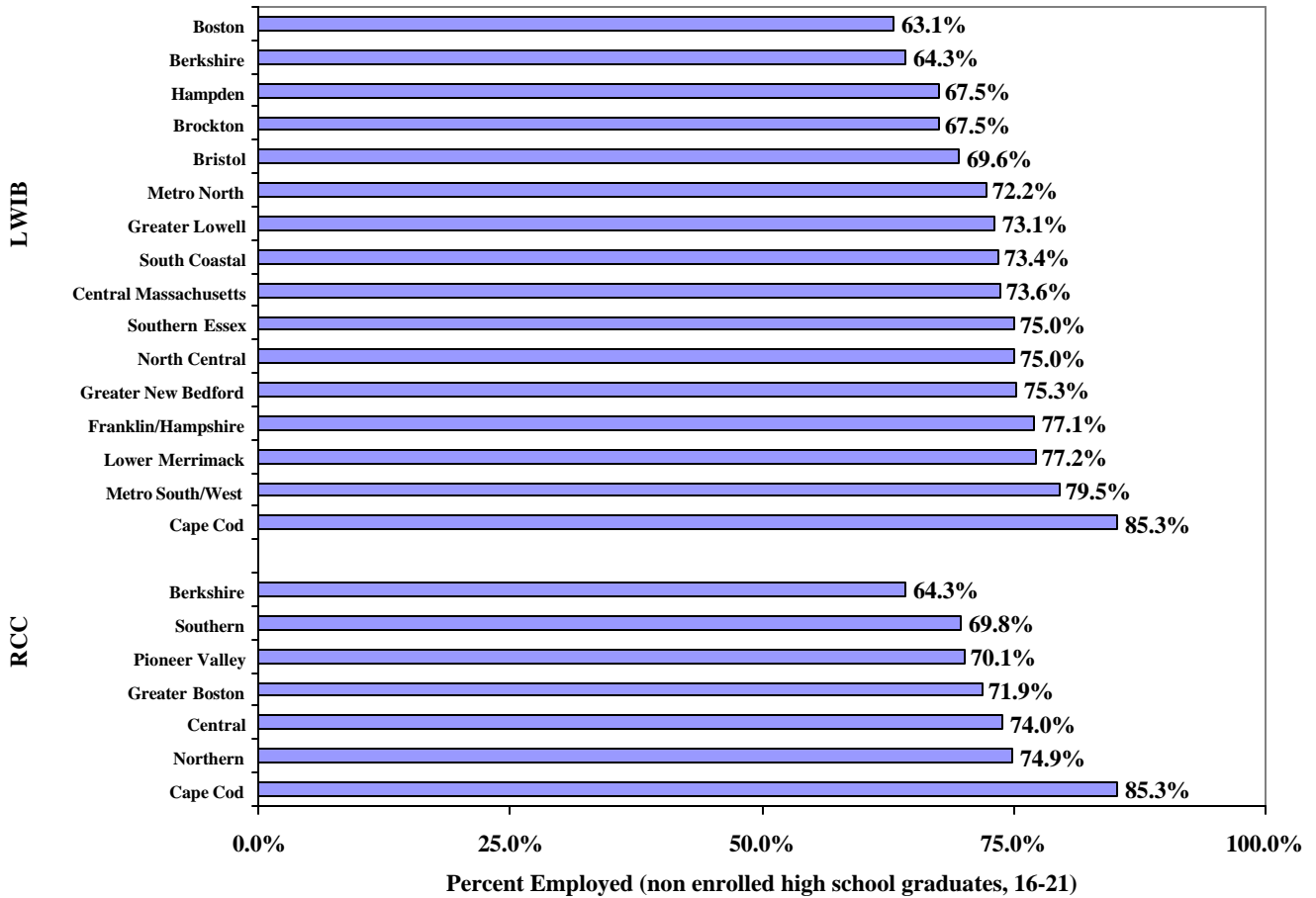


- ◆ Less than one-half of the non-enrolled young adults who failed to complete high school in the state were employed.
- ◆ Young adult high school dropouts residing in the western part of the state in the Pioneer Valley and Berkshire competitiveness council areas had employment rates under 44 percent. In contrast, the southeastern council communities had 55 percent of their out-of-school young adult dropouts employed, a rate of employment that was 11-percentage points higher than that in the western parts of the state.
- ◆ The 16 WIA workforce boards had employment rates for young non-enrolled high school dropouts ranging from a low of under 35 percent in Boston to over 62 percent in the communities of the Metro South/West board—a difference of 27-percentage points.
- ◆ A high fraction of young adults who are not in school and failed to complete high school are disengaged from education and the job market. Moreover, even when these individuals find employment, it is usually in low skill and low wage positions that come with few benefits and little job security.

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Civilian  
Non Enrolled High School Dropouts, 2000

	Total 16-21, Non Enrolled, High School Dropouts	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Massachusetts	37,808	18,649	49.3%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	592	260	43.9%
Cape Cod	955	503	52.7%
Central	4,299	2,137	49.7%
Greater Boston	12,458	6,096	48.9%
Northern	6,777	3,279	48.4%
Pioneer Valley	5,692	2,487	43.7%
Southern	7,035	3,887	55.3%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	592	260	43.9%
Boston	4,748	1,649	34.7%
Bristol	3,050	1,721	56.4%
Brockton	1,234	731	59.2%
Cape Cod	955	503	52.7%
Central Massachusetts	3,040	1,521	50.0%
Franklin/Hampshire	943	525	55.7%
Greater Lowell	2,019	872	43.2%
Greater New Bedford	2,004	940	46.9%
Hampden	4,749	1,962	41.3%
Lower Merrimack	2,390	1,183	49.5%
Metro North	4,024	2,362	58.7%
Metro South/West	2,219	1,379	62.1%
North Central	1,259	616	48.9%
South Coastal	2,214	1,201	54.2%
Southern Essex	2,368	1,224	51.7%

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Civilian Non Enrolled High School Graduates, 2000

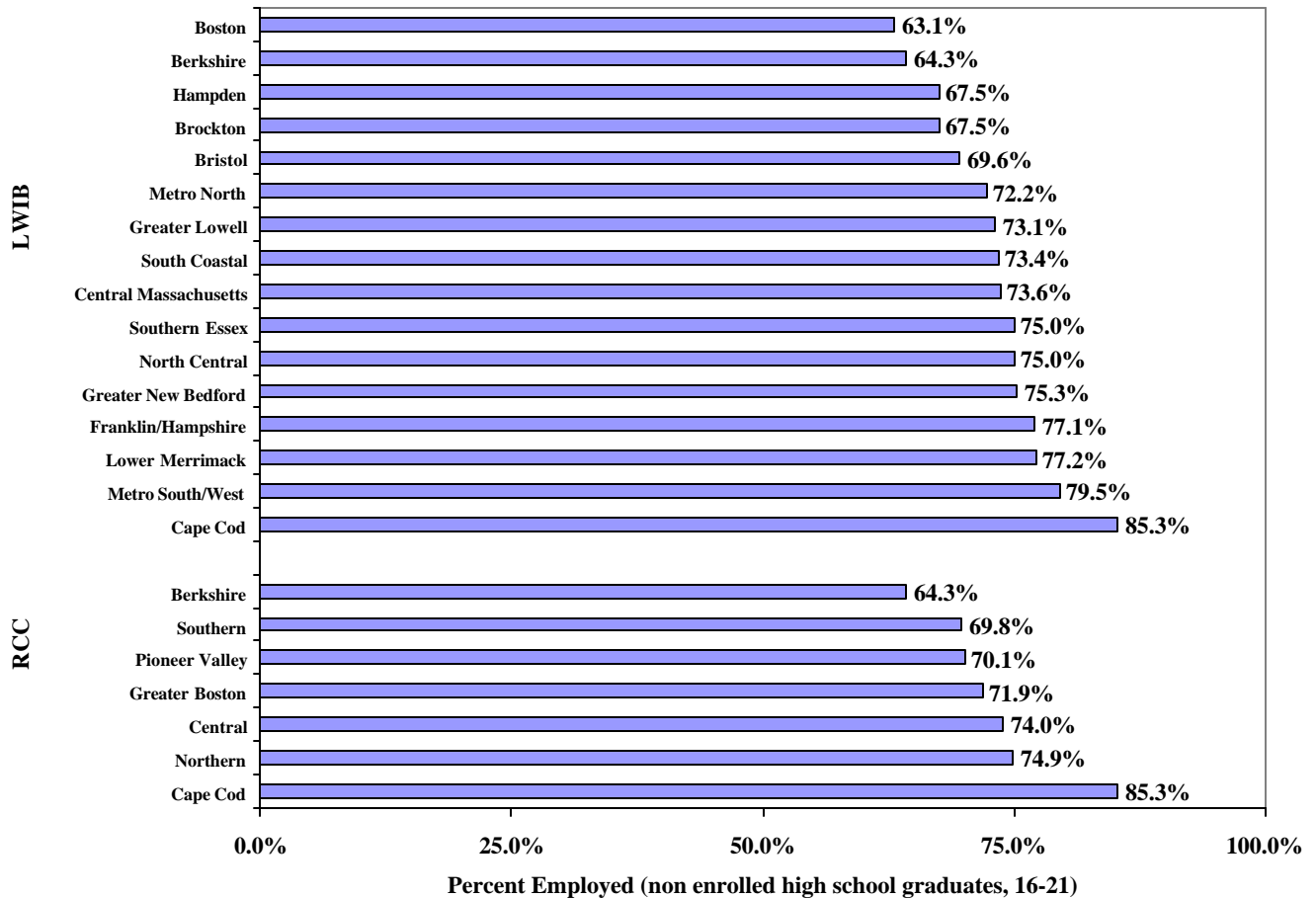


- ◆ The employment rates of young adults who had completed high school were much higher than those of their high school dropout counterparts. Over 72 percent of this group was employed at the time of the 2000 decennial census.
- ◆ There were, however, wide differences among the employment rates of this group of young adults by their place of residence. Across the seven competitiveness councils, the rates of employment varied from a high of 85 percent among young residents of the Cape Cod council to a low of 64 percent among their counterparts residing in the Berkshire regional council area.
- ◆ Young, non-enrolled high school graduates residing in the Cape Cod and the Metro South/West workforce investment boards were most likely to be employed whereas their counterparts in the Boston, Berkshire, Hampden, and Brockton workforce board areas were least likely to be employed with employment rates ranging from 63 percent in Boston and 64 percent in the Berkshire area to a high of 85 percent on Cape Cod.

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Civilian Non Enrolled  
High School Graduates, 2000

	Total 16-21, Non Enrolled, High School Graduates	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Massachusetts	53,516	38,685	72.3%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	1,250	804	64.3%
Cape Cod	2,060	1,758	85.3%
Central	6,136	4,538	74.0%
Greater Boston	18,601	13,372	71.9%
Northern	8,250	6,178	74.9%
Pioneer Valley	7,044	4,935	70.1%
Southern	10,175	7,100	69.8%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	1,250	804	64.3%
Boston	5,507	3,477	63.1%
Bristol	3,746	2,609	69.6%
Brockton	2,918	1,970	67.5%
Cape Cod	2,060	1,758	85.3%
Central Massachusetts	4,718	3,474	73.6%
Franklin/Hampshire	1,876	1,446	77.1%
Greater Lowell	2,635	1,926	73.1%
Greater New Bedford	1,987	1,497	75.3%
Hampden	5,168	3,489	67.5%
Lower Merrimack	1,920	1,482	77.2%
Metro North	6,242	4,509	72.2%
Metro South/West	4,287	3,408	79.5%
North Central	1,418	1,064	75.0%
South Coastal	4,089	3,002	73.4%
Southern Essex	3,695	2,770	75.0%

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Non Enrolled Civilians with Some Postsecondary Schooling, 2000 (Chart excludes the Berkshire RCC and LWIB areas since they have fewer than 400 16-21 year olds with some college)



- ◆ Young adults with some college education had the highest rates of employment. Statewide, nearly 80 percent of these individuals were employed at the time of the 2000 decennial census.
- ◆ Similar to the findings on the employment rates of their less educated counterparts, the employment rates of these young college educated individuals varied widely across workforce board areas and competitiveness councils.
- ◆ Residents of the communities in the Pioneer Valley, Greater Boston, and Southeastern competitiveness councils had employment rates between 77 percent and 78 percent. At the upper end, young college educated adults residing in the Northern and Central regional council areas had employment rates of 84 percent.
- ◆ The state's sixteen workforce board were characterized by employment rates for college educated young adults ranging from only 69 percent in the Boston and North Central areas to nearly 92 percent in communities of the Southern Essex WIA area, a difference of nearly 25-percentage points from top to bottom.

The Employment Rates of 16-21 Year Old Non-Enrolled  
 Civilians with Some Postsecondary Schooling, 2000

	Total 16-21, Non Enrolled, with Postsecondary Schooling	Number Employed	Percent Employed
Massachusetts	21,330	16,995	79.7%
<u>Regional Competitiveness Councils</u>			
Berkshire	377	356	94.4%
Cape Cod	830	670	80.7%
Central	2,548	2,138	83.9%
Greater Boston	7,875	6,120	77.7%
Northern	3,323	2,795	84.1%
Pioneer Valley	2,909	2,218	76.2%
Southern	3,468	2,698	77.8%
<u>Local Workforce Investment Board</u>			
Berkshire	377	356	94.4%
Boston	2,320	1,565	67.5%
Bristol	1,264	978	77.4%
Brockton	1,145	901	78.7%
Cape Cod	830	670	80.7%
Central Massachusetts	2,116	1,845	87.2%
Franklin/Hampshire	1,070	901	84.2%
Greater Lowell	1,071	833	77.8%
Greater New Bedford	617	513	83.1%
Hampden	1,839	1,317	71.6%
Lower Merrimack	703	538	76.5%
Metro North	2,279	1,823	80.0%
Metro South/West	2,292	1,866	81.4%
North Central	432	293	67.8%
South Coastal	1,426	1,172	82.2%
Southern Essex	1,549	1,424	91.9%