

**School Enrollment, Employment, English
Speaking Proficiency, Income Inadequacy, and
Parenthood 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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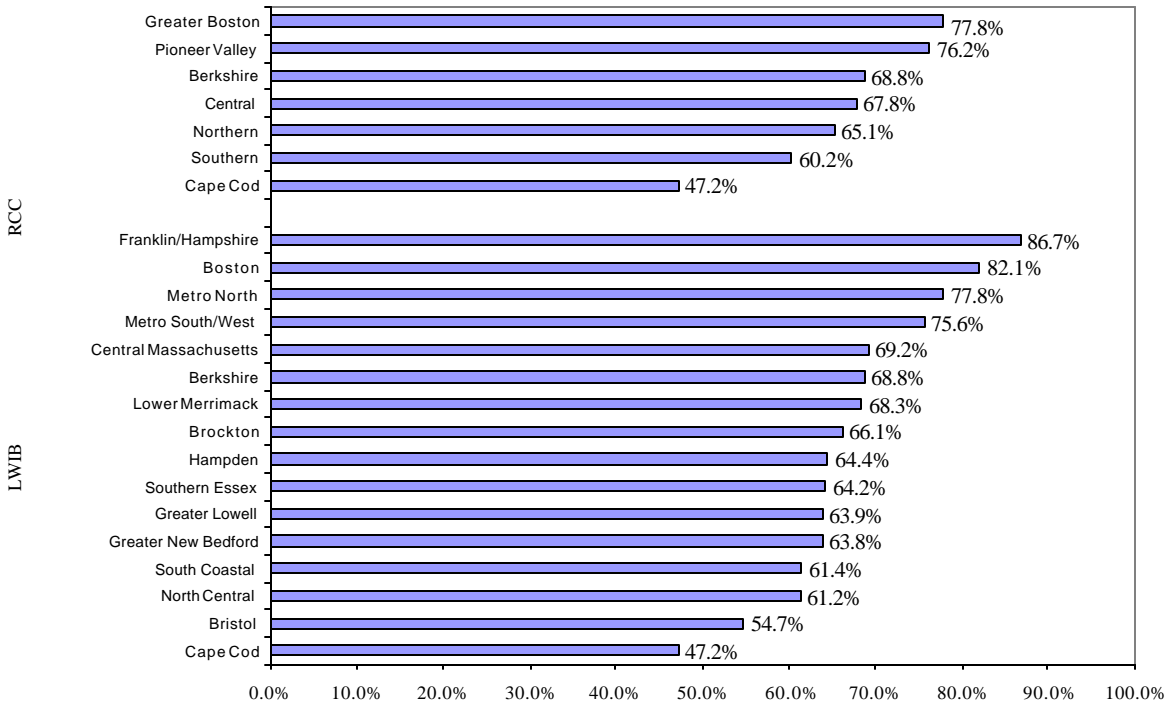
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Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds with a High School Diploma or More Enrolled in College, 2000

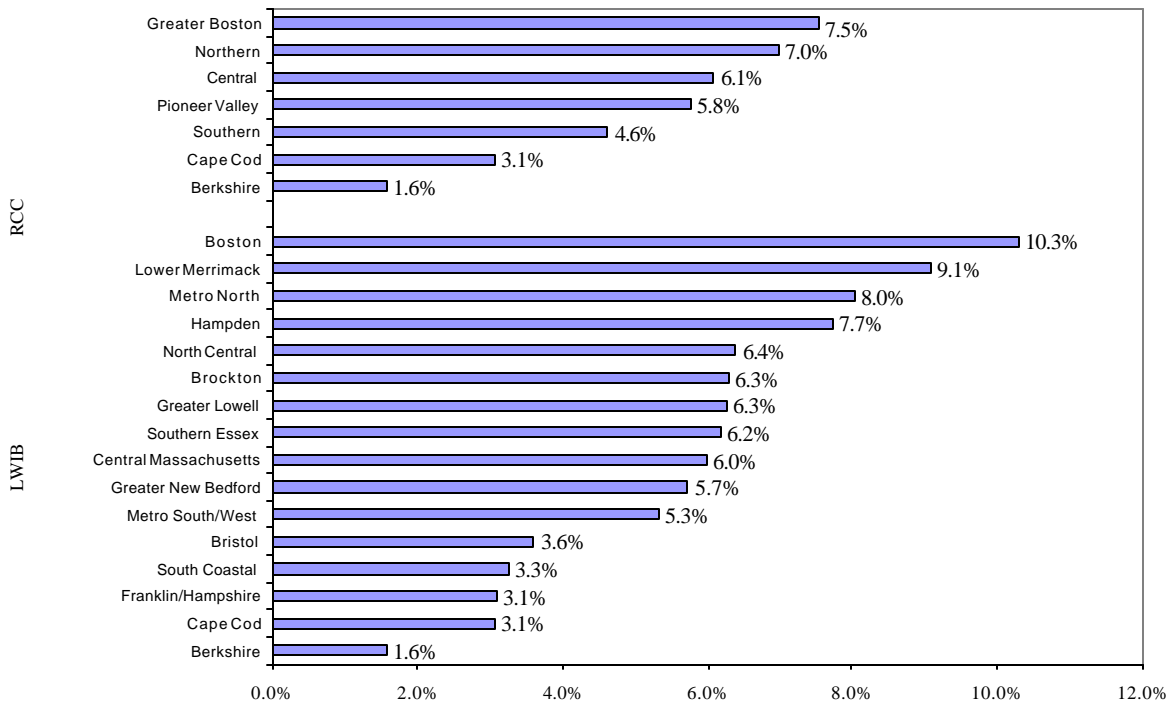


- ◆ The enrollment rate among 16- to 21-year olds with at least a high school diploma in Massachusetts was 72 percent, the 3rd highest enrollment rate among all states
- ◆ Among RCCs the highest enrollment rates were in the Greater Boston and Pioneer Valley Councils where more than three-quarters of young adults were enrolled. Parts of these high enrollment rates are attributable to the presence of colleges and universities in these areas. The lowest enrollment rate was among young residents of the Cape Cod Council—47 percent.
- ◆ Enrollment rates varied from a high of nearly 87 percent in the Franklin/Hampshire and 82 percent in the Boston Workforce Investment Boards. At the bottom were residents of Bristol and the Cape Cod Boards with enrollment rates of 16- to 21-year old residents under 55 percent.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds with a High School Diploma or More Enrolled in
College, 2000

	Total 16-21 with a High School Diploma or More	Number Enrolled in College	Percent Enrolled in College
Berkshire	5,219	3,592	68.8%
Cape Cod	5,674	2,678	47.2%
Central	26,993	18,288	67.8%
Greater Boston	120,073	93,450	77.8%
Northern	33,191	21,618	65.1%
Pioneer Valley	42,169	32,144	76.2%
Southern	34,422	20,722	60.2%
Berkshire	5,219	3,592	68.8%
Boston	44,080	36,196	82.1%
Bristol	11,086	6,060	54.7%
Brockton	12,030	7,954	66.1%
Cape Cod	5,674	2,678	47.2%
Central Massachusetts	22,173	15,339	69.2%
Franklin/Hampshire	22,359	19,380	86.7%
Greater Lowell	10,257	6,551	63.9%
Greater New Bedford	7,265	4,633	63.8%
Hampden	19,810	12,764	64.4%
Lower Merrimack	8,274	5,651	68.3%
Metro North	38,553	29,998	77.8%
Metro South/West	27,196	20,561	75.6%
North Central	4,820	2,949	61.2%
South Coastal	14,285	8,770	61.4%
Southern Essex	14,660	9,416	64.2%
Massachusetts	267,741	192,492	71.9%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			3

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds Who Were Deficient English Speakers, 2000



- ◆ Deficient English speakers accounted for about 1 in 16 young adults in Massachusetts. The state had the 17th highest proportion of deficient English speakers in the 16- to 21-year old age group among all states in the nation.
- ◆ Sharp differences in the English language proficiencies existed across the 7 Council areas and 16 Workforce Boards. While 7.5 percent of young adult residents of the communities in the Greater Boston Council had English language deficiencies, this proportion was only 1.6 percent in the communities of the Berkshire Council.
- ◆ Deficient English speakers ranged from a high of over 1 in 10 young adults in the Boston LWIB to a low of 1.6 percent in the Berkshire LWIB area.

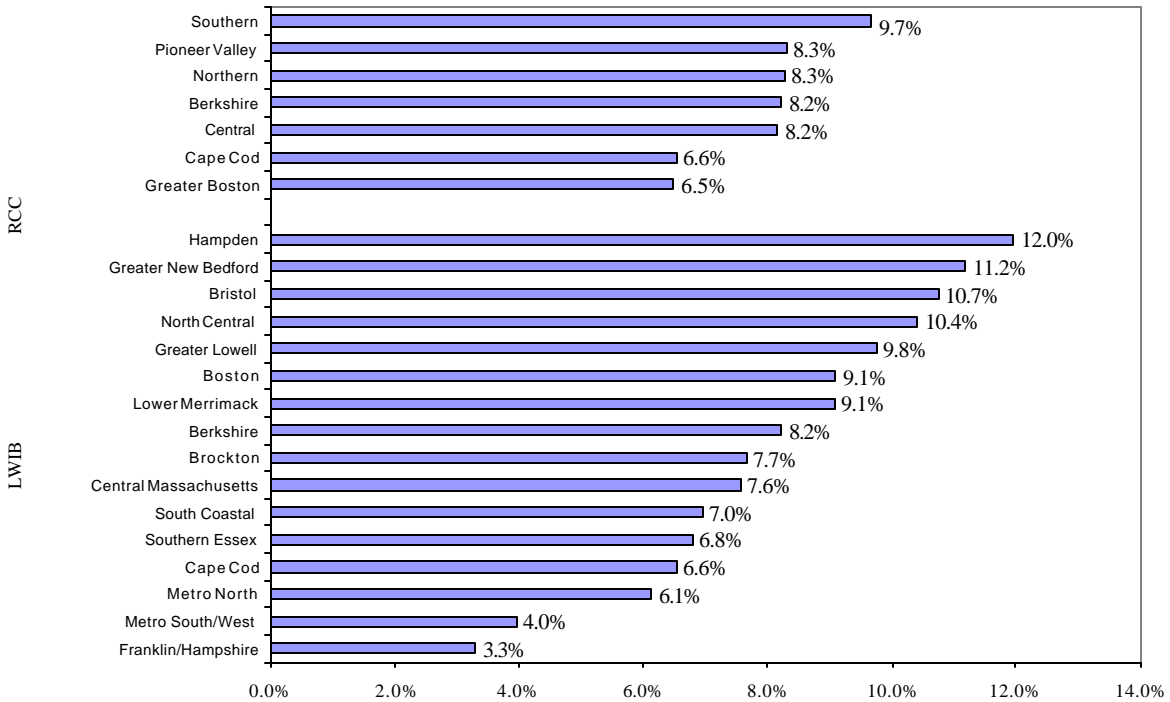
Distribution of 16- to 21-Year Olds by English Speaking Proficiencies, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Olds	Number who Speak Only English	Number Bilingual and Speak English Very Well	Number Bilingual with English Speaking Deficiency
Berkshire	9,715	8,969	593	153
Cape Cod	14,171	12,860	878	433
Central	51,076	41,445	6,526	3,105
Greater Boston	205,794	150,676	39,585	15,533
Northern	73,727	54,366	14,215	5,146
Pioneer Valley	72,484	56,711	11,593	4,180
Southern	72,343	58,254	10,750	3,339
Berkshire	9,715	8,969	593	153
Boston	64,757	42,332	15,750	6,675
Bristol	25,619	20,282	4,415	922
Brockton	22,079	18,239	2,449	1,391
Cape Cod	14,171	12,860	878	433
Central Massachusetts	40,147	32,475	5,264	2,408
Franklin/Hampshire	30,751	26,075	3,725	951
Greater Lowell	21,435	15,706	4,385	1,344
Greater New Bedford	14,821	10,694	3,279	848
Hampden	41,733	30,636	7,868	3,229
Lower Merrimack	19,917	13,197	4,914	1,806
Metro North	62,799	44,066	13,689	5,044
Metro South/West	54,170	44,136	7,144	2,890
North Central	10,929	8,970	1,262	697
South Coastal	33,892	29,181	3,609	1,102
Southern Essex	32,375	25,463	4,916	1,996
Massachusetts	499,310	383,281	84,140	31,889

Percentage Distribution of 16- 21-Year Olds by English Speaking Proficiencies, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Olds	Percent who Speak Only English	Percent Bilingual and Speak English Very Well	Percent Bilingual with English Speaking Deficiency
Berkshire	100.0%	92.3%	6.1%	1.6%
Cape Cod	100.0%	90.7%	6.2%	3.1%
Central	100.0%	81.1%	12.8%	6.1%
Greater Boston	100.0%	73.2%	19.2%	7.5%
Northern	100.0%	73.7%	19.3%	7.0%
Pioneer Valley	100.0%	78.2%	16.0%	5.8%
Southern	100.0%	80.5%	14.9%	4.6%
Berkshire	100.0%	92.3%	6.1%	1.6%
Boston	100.0%	65.4%	24.3%	10.3%
Bristol	100.0%	79.2%	17.2%	3.6%
Brockton	100.0%	82.6%	11.1%	6.3%
Cape Cod	100.0%	90.7%	6.2%	3.1%
Central Massachusetts	100.0%	80.9%	13.1%	6.0%
Franklin/Hampshire	100.0%	84.8%	12.1%	3.1%
Greater Lowell	100.0%	73.3%	20.5%	6.3%
Greater New Bedford	100.0%	72.2%	22.1%	5.7%
Hampden	100.0%	73.4%	18.9%	7.7%
Lower Merrimack	100.0%	66.3%	24.7%	9.1%
Metro North	100.0%	70.2%	21.8%	8.0%
Metro South/West	100.0%	81.5%	13.2%	5.3%
North Central	100.0%	82.1%	11.5%	6.4%
South Coastal	100.0%	86.1%	10.6%	3.3%
Southern Essex	100.0%	78.7%	15.2%	6.2%
Massachusetts	100.0%	76.8%	16.9%	6.4%
Massachusetts' Rank		43	9	17

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds Who Were Jobless and Out of School, 2000

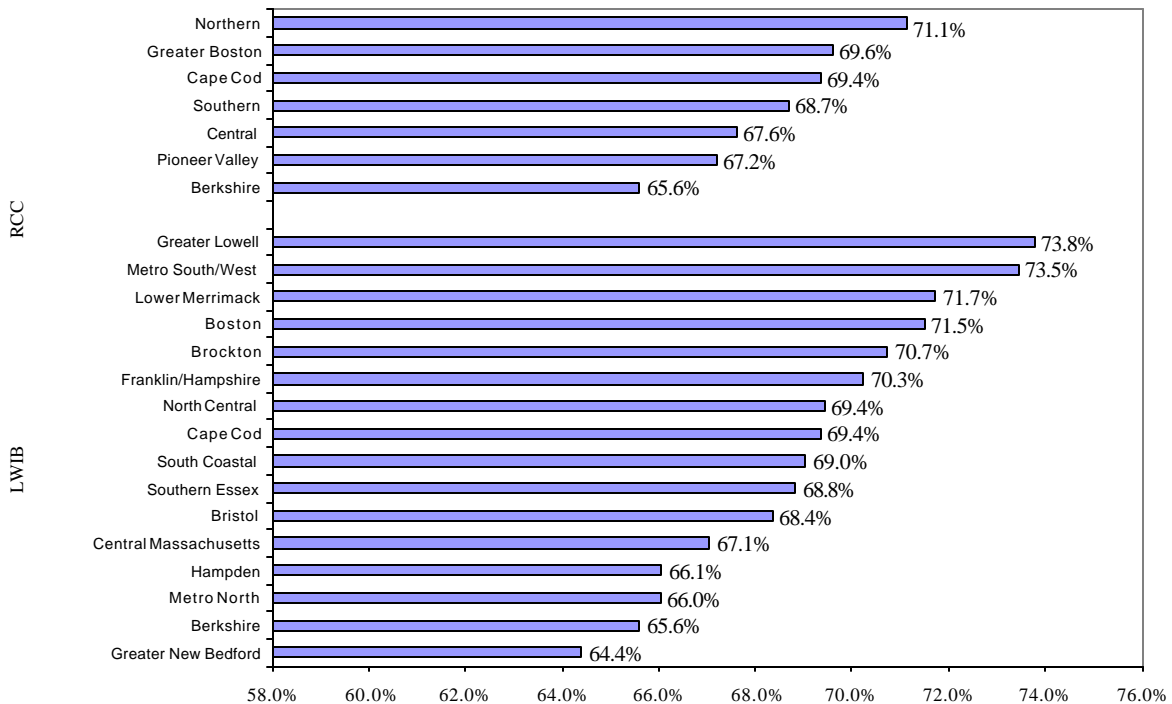


- ◆ Nearly 8 percent of the 16- to 21-year old residents in Massachusetts were jobless and out of school at the time of the 2000 decennial census. The proportion of disconnected youth in Massachusetts placed the state at rank 45 among 50 states and the District of Columbia. There were only 6 other states with a lower rate of youth disconnection.
- ◆ The proportion of jobless and out of school youth varied very little across the Regional Competitiveness Councils. The highest proportion of disconnected youth were in the Southern Council (9.7 percent) and the lowest ranking Council was the Greater Boston Council where 6.5 percent of these youth were disengaged from the educational system and the labor market.
- ◆ The variation in the disconnection rate was wider across the local workforce boards. Nearly 5,000 or 12 percent of young adults in the Hampden LWIB area were jobless and out of school. Nearly one in nine young adult residents of the Bristol and the North Central boards were disconnected. At the lower end, young residents in the communities of the Franklin/Hampshire board were least likely to be jobless and out of school. Only 3 percent of the young residents in this area fell in that category.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds Who Were Jobless and Out of School, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Old Civilians	Number Jobless and Out of School	Percent Jobless and Out of School
Berkshire	9,715	799	8.2%
Cape Cod	13,946	914	6.6%
Central	51,033	4,170	8.2%
Greater Boston	205,495	13,346	6.5%
Northern	73,706	6,098	8.3%
Pioneer Valley	72,365	6,005	8.3%
Southern	72,286	6,993	9.7%
Berkshire	9,715	799	8.2%
Boston	64,670	5,884	9.1%
Bristol	25,603	2,752	10.7%
Brockton	22,066	1,695	7.7%
Cape Cod	13,946	914	6.6%
Central Massachusetts	40,125	3,034	7.6%
Franklin/Hampshire	30,718	1,017	3.3%
Greater Lowell	21,435	2,094	9.8%
Greater New Bedford	14,793	1,658	11.2%
Hampden	41,647	4,988	12.0%
Lower Merrimack	19,917	1,810	9.1%
Metro North	62,742	3,851	6.1%
Metro South/West	54,044	2,145	4.0%
North Central	10,908	1,136	10.4%
South Coastal	33,863	2,354	7.0%
Southern Essex	32,354	2,194	6.8%
Massachusetts	498,546	38,325	7.7%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			45

Percentage of Out-of-School and Employed 16- to 21-Year Olds Working in Full-Time Jobs, 2000

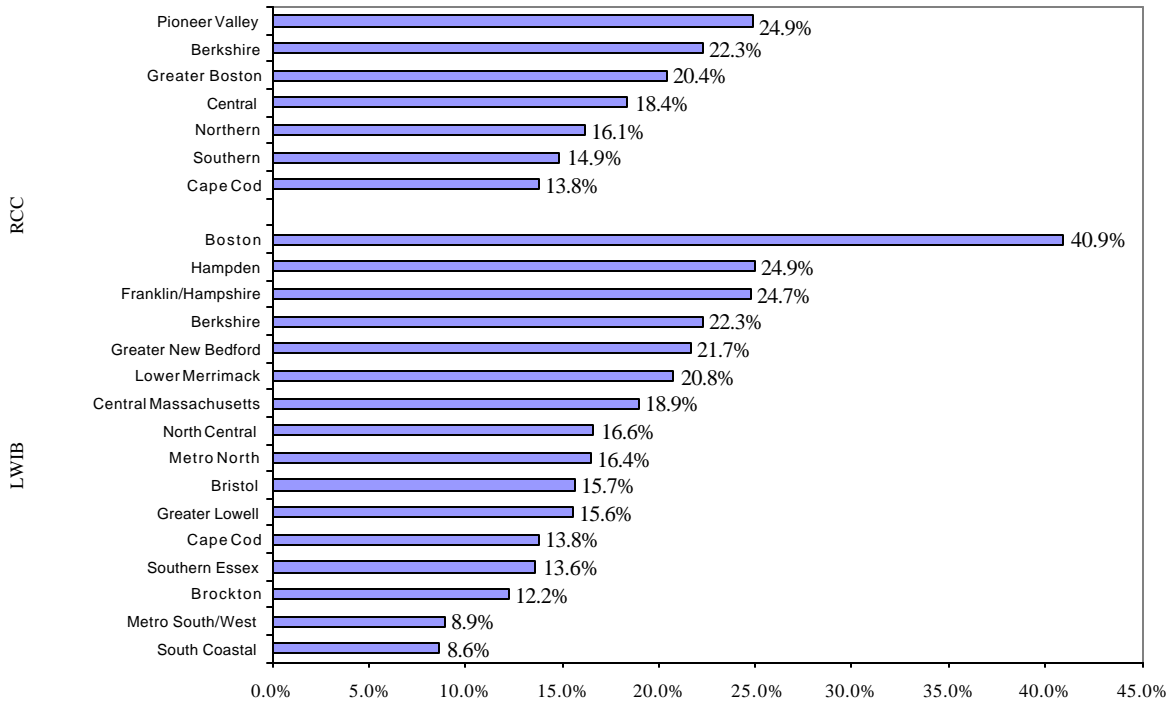


- ◆ Nearly 7 out of 10 employed young adults in Massachusetts were working in full-time jobs. This full-time employment rate placed the state at rank 37, which means that 36 states had a higher full-time employment than Massachusetts.
- ◆ Full-time employment among young residents of the Northern, Greater Boston, and Cape Cod was at the same level as the state, around 70 percent. About two-thirds of employed young adults in the remaining four councils worked in full-time jobs.
- ◆ The highest youth full-time employment among LWIBs was measured in the Greater Lowell and Metro South/West boards where nearly three-quarters of employed 16- to 21-year old young adults worked in full-time jobs. The smallest youth full-time employment was among residents of the Greater New Bedford board area (64 percent).

Percentage of Out-of-School and Employed 16- to 21-Year Olds Working in Full-Time
Jobs, 2000

	Total Out-of-School and Employed 16-21 Year Olds	Number Employed in Full-Time Jobs	Percent Employed in Full-Time Jobs
Berkshire	1,825	1,197	65.6%
Cape Cod	3,580	2,483	69.4%
Central	10,546	7,131	67.6%
Greater Boston	29,547	20,561	69.6%
Northern	13,976	9,941	71.1%
Pioneer Valley	12,242	8,225	67.2%
Southern	16,292	11,187	68.7%
Berkshire	1,825	1,197	65.6%
Boston	8,388	5,998	71.5%
Bristol	6,396	4,372	68.4%
Brockton	4,338	3,068	70.7%
Cape Cod	3,580	2,483	69.4%
Central Massachusetts	8,035	5,388	67.1%
Franklin/Hampshire	3,254	2,286	70.3%
Greater Lowell	4,336	3,199	73.8%
Greater New Bedford	3,449	2,221	64.4%
Hampden	8,988	5,939	66.1%
Lower Merrimack	3,713	2,663	71.7%
Metro North	9,913	6,546	66.0%
Metro South/West	7,275	5,345	73.5%
North Central	2,511	1,743	69.4%
South Coastal	6,080	4,198	69.0%
Southern Essex	5,927	4,079	68.8%
Massachusetts	88,008	60,725	69.0%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			37

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds with Income Below 125 Percent of the Poverty Line, 2000

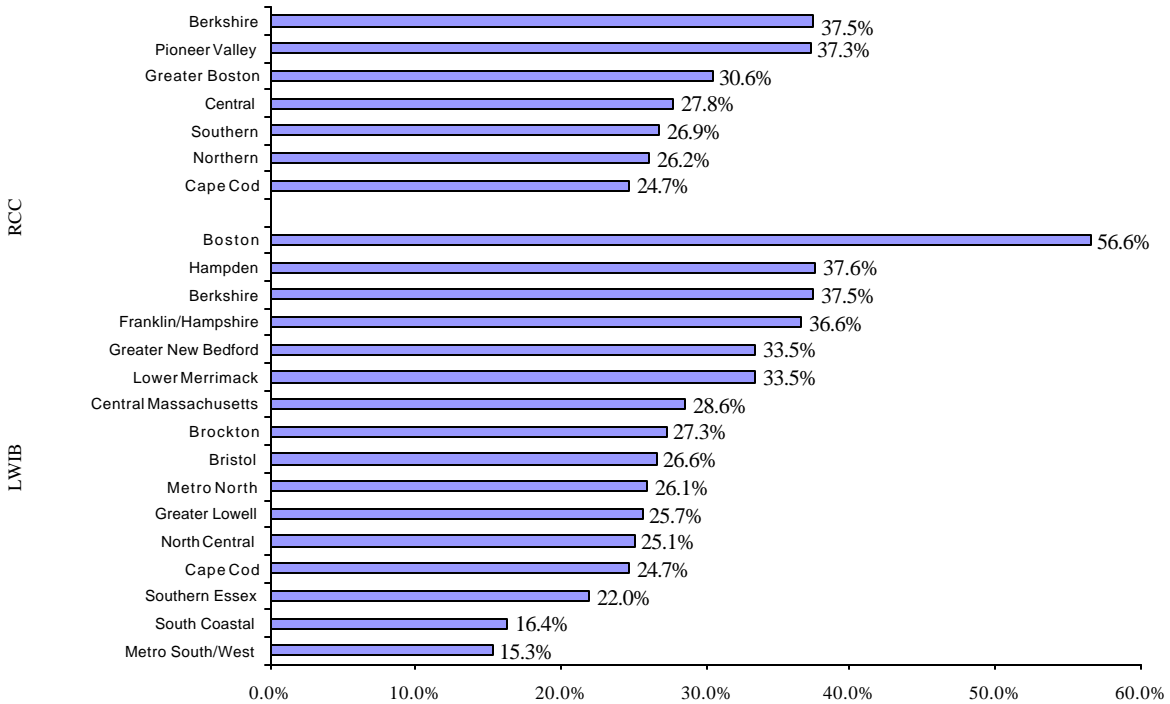


- ◆ Nearly one-fifth of 16- to 21-year old residents of the Bay State had incomes below 125 percent of the poverty threshold. The 1999 poverty threshold for a family of four was \$17,029. Despite this high rate of income inadequacy, there were 44 other states in the nation that had a higher income inadequacy among their young adult population.
- ◆ The poverty-near poverty rates among young adults varied from a high of nearly 25 percent in the Pioneer valley area to a low of 14 percent among young residents of the Cape Cod council area.
- ◆ Wide variations in the poverty-near poverty rates existed across the LWIB areas. The highest proportion of poor-near poor young adults resided in Boston (41 percent). Nearly 1 out of 4 young residents of the Franklin-Hampshire and Hampden board areas had incomes below 125 percent of the poverty line and one-fifth of the young residents of the Berkshire and Lower Merrimack board areas were poor or near poor. The lowest rate of income adequacy was among young residents of the South Coastal and the Metro South/West areas where fewer than 1 in 11 young residents had incomes below the near-poverty threshold.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds with Income Below 125 Percent of the
Poverty Line, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Olds for Whom Poverty Status is Determined	Number with Income Below 125% of the Poverty Line	Percent with Income Below 125% of the Poverty Line
Berkshire	7,267	1,617	22.3%
Cape Cod	13,423	1,849	13.8%
Central	42,364	7,780	18.4%
Greater Boston	158,240	32,321	20.4%
Northern	67,634	10,913	16.1%
Pioneer Valley	53,501	13,303	24.9%
Southern	65,334	9,704	14.9%
Berkshire	7,267	1,617	22.3%
Boston	46,404	19,001	40.9%
Bristol	24,439	3,832	15.7%
Brockton	18,584	2,271	12.2%
Cape Cod	13,423	1,849	13.8%
Central Massachusetts	32,247	6,100	18.9%
Franklin/Hampshire	16,725	4,139	24.7%
Greater Lowell	19,793	3,082	15.6%
Greater New Bedford	12,841	2,787	21.7%
Hampden	36,776	9,164	24.9%
Lower Merrimack	18,386	3,823	20.8%
Metro North	45,246	7,434	16.4%
Metro South/West	43,745	3,913	8.9%
North Central	10,117	1,680	16.6%
South Coastal	32,315	2,787	8.6%
Southern Essex	29,455	4,008	13.6%
Massachusetts	407,763	77,487	19.0%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			45

Percentage of 16- to 21- Year Olds with Income Below 200 Percent of the Poverty Line, 2000

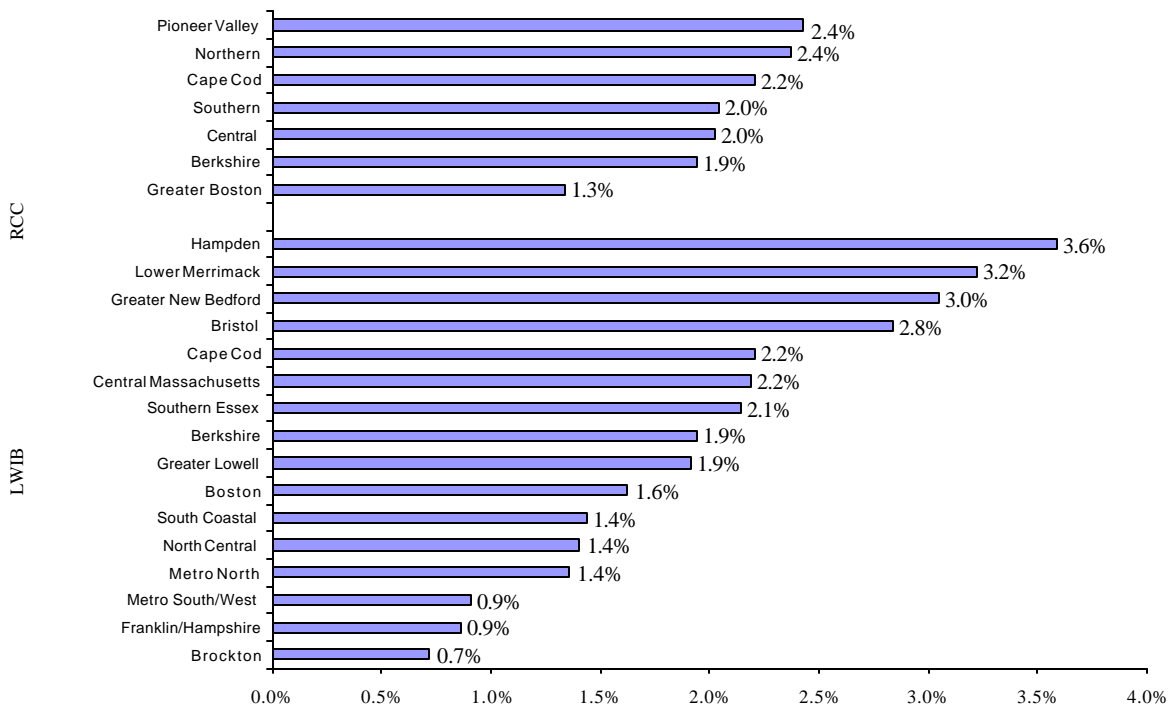


- ◆ We used incomes below 200 percent of the poverty line as another wider measure of income inadequacy. The 1999 poverty threshold for a family of four was \$17,029. Statewide, 3 out of 10 young adults had income below 2 times the poverty threshold, placing the state at rank 47 out of 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- ◆ Among the regional competitiveness councils, the Berkshire and Pioneer Valley councils had the highest income inadequacy among young adult residents based on this measure. Nearly 40 percent of young adults in these two regions had incomes below 200 percent of the poverty threshold. At the lower end, one-quarter of the residents of the Cape Cod council area had incomes below twice the poverty threshold.
- ◆ The variation in income inadequacy measured as income below 200 percent of the poverty threshold across LWIB areas ranged from high of 57 percent in Boston to a low of 15 percent in the Metro South/West area.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds with Income Below 200 Percent of the
Poverty Line, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Olds for Whom Poverty Status is Determined	Number with Income Below 200% of the Poverty Line	Percent with Income Below 200% of the Poverty Line
Berkshire	7,267	2,726	37.5%
Cape Cod	13,423	3,315	24.7%
Central	42,364	11,769	27.8%
Greater Boston	158,240	48,404	30.6%
Northern	67,634	17,733	26.2%
Pioneer Valley	53,501	19,958	37.3%
Southern	65,334	17,552	26.9%
Berkshire	7,267	2,726	37.5%
Boston	46,404	26,275	56.6%
Bristol	24,439	6,510	26.6%
Brockton	18,584	5,075	27.3%
Cape Cod	13,423	3,315	24.7%
Central Massachusetts	32,247	9,228	28.6%
Franklin/Hampshire	16,725	6,127	36.6%
Greater Lowell	19,793	5,089	25.7%
Greater New Bedford	12,841	4,303	33.5%
Hampden	36,776	13,831	37.6%
Lower Merrimack	18,386	6,156	33.5%
Metro North	45,246	11,794	26.1%
Metro South/West	43,745	6,686	15.3%
North Central	10,117	2,541	25.1%
South Coastal	32,315	5,313	16.4%
Southern Essex	29,455	6,488	22.0%
Massachusetts	407,763	121,457	29.8%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			47

Percentage of 16- to 21- Year Olds Receiving Public Assistance Income or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in 1999

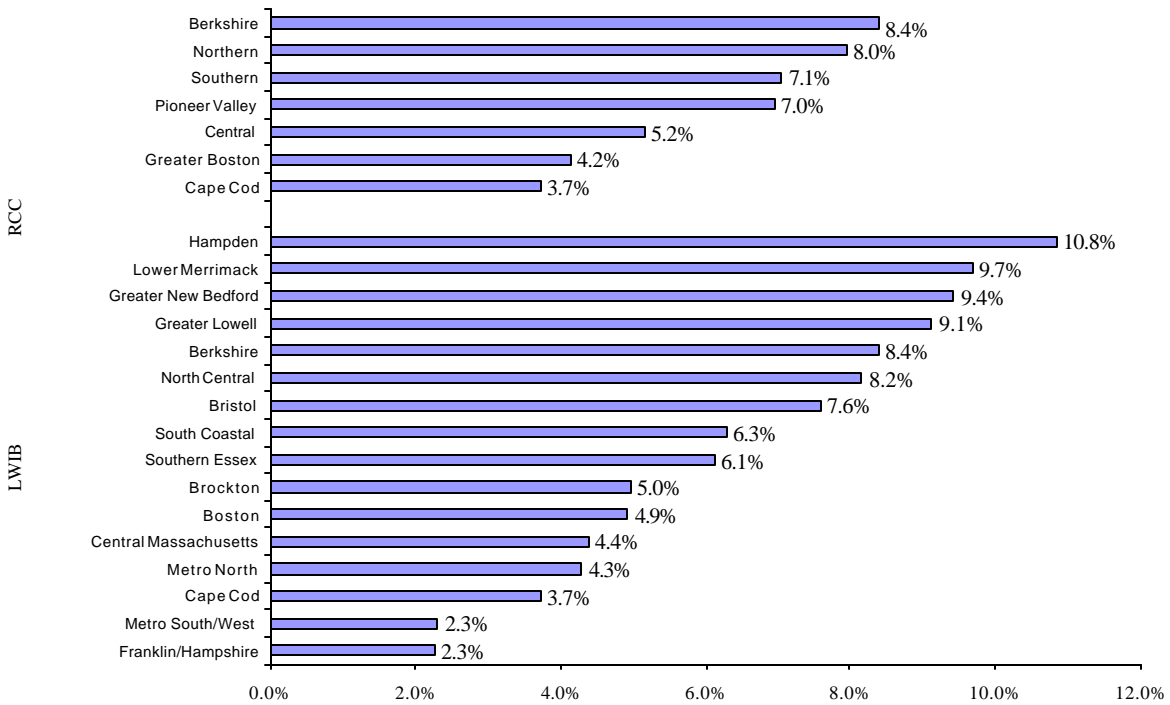


- ◆ Receipt of public assistance income was quite low among young residents of Massachusetts. About 9,300 out of 499,300 or 2 percent of the state’s young residents had received public assistance income or supplemental security income during 1999. This rate of public assistance income receipt was the 34th highest across all states in the nation.
- ◆ The receipt of public assistance income varied from 2.4 percent among young residents of the Pioneer Valley and Northern RCCs to 1.3 percent among young residents of the Greater Boston council area.
- ◆ The highest incidence of public assistance income receipt was among young residents of the Hampden (3.6 percent) and Lower Merrimack (3.2 percent) LWIB areas. The lowest rates were among residents of communities in the Brockton and Metro South/West LWIB areas.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Olds Receiving Public Assistance Income or Supplemental
Security Income (SSI) in 1999

	Total 16-21 Year Olds	Number with Public Assistance or SSI	Percent with Public Assistance or SSI
Berkshire	9,715	188	1.9%
Cape Cod	14,171	312	2.2%
Central	51,076	1,033	2.0%
Greater Boston	205,794	2,746	1.3%
Northern	73,727	1,745	2.4%
Pioneer Valley	72,484	1,762	2.4%
Southern	72,343	1,475	2.0%
Berkshire	9,715	188	1.9%
Boston	64,757	1,050	1.6%
Bristol	25,619	727	2.8%
Brockton	22,079	159	0.7%
Cape Cod	14,171	312	2.2%
Central Massachusetts	40,147	879	2.2%
Franklin/Hampshire	30,751	265	0.9%
Greater Lowell	21,435	411	1.9%
Greater New Bedford	14,821	452	3.0%
Hampden	41,733	1,497	3.6%
Lower Merrimack	19,917	641	3.2%
Metro North	62,799	855	1.4%
Metro South/West	54,170	491	0.9%
North Central	10,929	154	1.4%
South Coastal	33,892	487	1.4%
Southern Essex	32,375	693	2.1%
Massachusetts	499,310	9,261	1.9%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			34

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Old Women with One or More Own Children, 2000

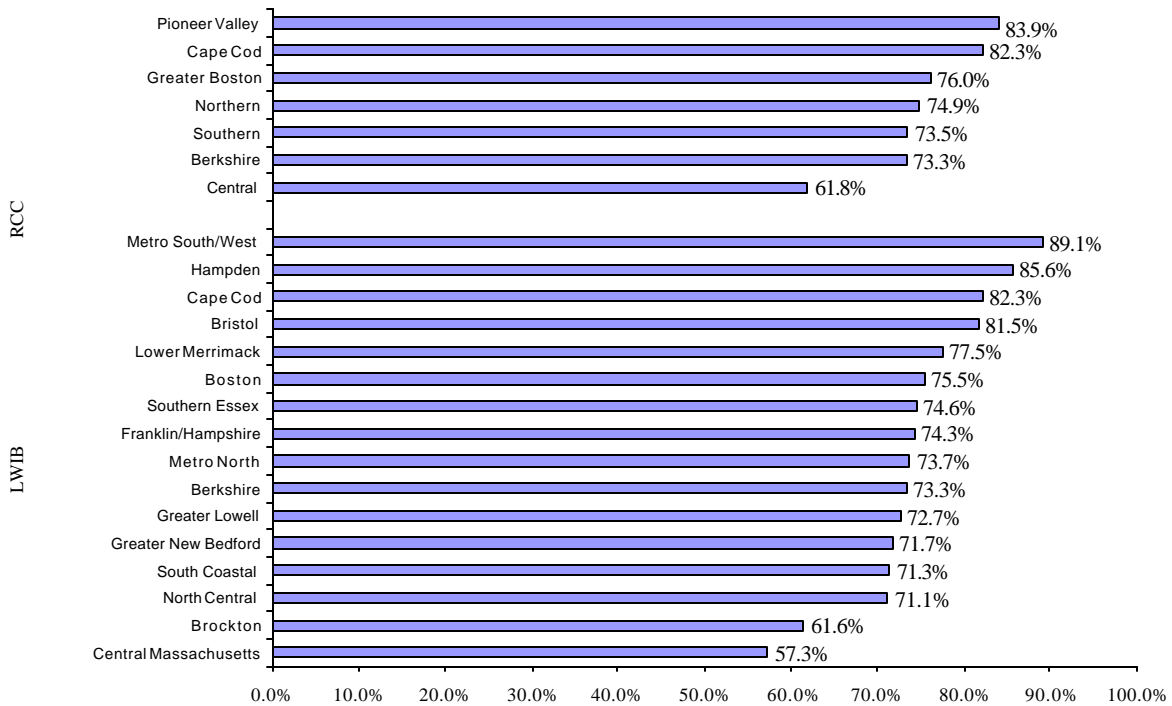


- ◆ Motherhood among 16- to 21-year old women in Massachusetts was not as prevalent as in all other states except one. Massachusetts had one of the lowest rates of motherhood among its young female residents. Nearly 14,200 out of 248,000 or nearly 6 percent of 16- to 21-year olds females in the state had one or more children.
- ◆ Over 8 percent of the young women residing in the Berkshire council area and 8 percent of the young female residents of the Northern council area stated that they were mothers. The lowest rates of motherhood were among young residents of the Cape Cod and Greater Boston council areas, 3.7 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively.
- ◆ Mothers accounted for nearly 11 percent of young female residents in the Hampden board area and 10 percent in the Lowe Merrimack board area. One in 11 young female residents of the Greater Lowell and Greater New Bedford board areas stated they were mothers. The lowest rates of motherhood were among young women residing in the Metro South/West and the Franklin/Hampshire LWIB areas.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Old Women with One or More Own Children, 2000

	Total 16-21 Year Old Women	Number with One+ Own Children Under 18	Percent with One+ Own Children Under 18
Berkshire	4,953	416	8.4%
Cape Cod	6,361	237	3.7%
Central	24,736	1,279	5.2%
Greater Boston	102,925	4,275	4.2%
Northern	36,101	2,872	8.0%
Pioneer Valley	37,411	2,601	7.0%
Southern	35,340	2,493	7.1%
Berkshire	4,953	416	8.4%
Boston	32,778	1,617	4.9%
Bristol	12,640	959	7.6%
Brockton	11,392	567	5.0%
Cape Cod	6,361	237	3.7%
Central Massachusetts	19,605	860	4.4%
Franklin/Hampshire	16,978	385	2.3%
Greater Lowell	10,445	954	9.1%
Greater New Bedford	7,007	660	9.4%
Hampden	20,433	2,216	10.8%
Lower Merrimack	9,633	934	9.7%
Metro North	31,330	1,344	4.3%
Metro South/West	27,370	631	2.3%
North Central	5,131	419	8.2%
South Coastal	15,748	990	6.3%
Southern Essex	16,023	984	6.1%
Massachusetts	247,827	14,173	5.7%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			50

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Old Women with One or More Own Children who Were Never Married, 2000



- ◆ The final indicator in this package pertains to the incidence of unwed motherhood among young mothers. Over three-quarters of young mothers in Massachusetts were never married. This ratio of unwed motherhood is the second highest in the nation.
- ◆ The rate of unwed motherhood among young mothers ranged from a high of 84 percent in the Pioneer Valley council area to a low of 62 percent among young mothers residing in the Central RCC area.
- ◆ Among LWIBs with more than 1,000 young mothers, the highest rate of unwed motherhood was in the Hampden LWIB area. Nearly 1,900 out of the 2,200 young mothers residing in the Hampden LWIB area were unwed mothers, representing an unwed motherhood rate of 86 percent. The other two LWIB areas with more than 1,000 young mothers were the Boston and Metro North LWIB. In both these areas unwed mothers accounted for three-quarters of all young mothers.

Percentage of 16- to 21-Year Old Women with One or More Own Children who
Were Never Married, 2000

	Number of 16-21 Year Old Women with One+ Own Children Under 18	Number Never Married	Percent Never Married
Berkshire	416	305	73.3%
Cape Cod	237	195	82.3%
Central	1,279	791	61.8%
Greater Boston	4,275	3,250	76.0%
Northern	2,872	2,152	74.9%
Pioneer Valley	2,601	2,183	83.9%
Southern	2,493	1,833	73.5%
Berkshire	416	305	73.3%
Boston	1,617	1,221	75.5%
Bristol	959	782	81.5%
Brockton	567	349	61.6%
Cape Cod	237	195	82.3%
Central Massachusetts	860	493	57.3%
Franklin/Hampshire	385	286	74.3%
Greater Lowell	954	694	72.7%
Greater New Bedford	660	473	71.7%
Hampden	2,216	1,897	85.6%
Lower Merrimack	934	724	77.5%
Metro North	1,344	990	73.7%
Metro South/West	631	562	89.1%
North Central	419	298	71.1%
South Coastal	990	706	71.3%
Southern Essex	984	734	74.6%
Massachusetts	14,173	10,709	75.6%
Massachusetts' Rank out of 50 states and D.C.			2