TRANSFER AND COMPLETION
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED: MASSACHUSETTS

Number of associate degrees and certificates awarded

FIELD OF STUDY

AWARD TYPE

GENDER

NOTE: STEM represents the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Changes in the field of study categories preclude comparisons prior to 2003.
**What Is Measured?**
Number of associate degrees and certificates awarded

**Who Is Counted?**
All associate degree and certificate completers

**What It Tells Us**
In 2014, Massachusetts Community Colleges awarded 11,874 associate degrees, 2,796 certificates of less than one year, 689 certificates of one year to less than two years, and 0 certificates of two years or more, for a total of 15,359 subbaccalaureate credentials awarded.

**Why It’s Important**
Government officials, foundations, and researchers are calling on U.S. postsecondary institutions to graduate more students with certificates and degrees, and as the largest single sector of postsecondary education, community colleges are a major focus of this effort. Labor market demand for jobs specifically requiring postsecondary education at the subbaccalaureate level is growing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that 6 of the top 10 fastest-growing occupations between 2004 and 2014 will require a subbaccalaureate credential, the kind that is typically earned at a community college. Tracking the number of associate degrees and certificates community colleges issue each year shows how closely they are meeting this demand.

**ABOUT THE DATA**
Certificate requirements range from less than 1 credit to more than 100 credits and are reported in categories of full-time academic years required for completion. Not all states award certificates in all categories. Students who complete more than one award in the same year are counted multiple times.

Data from the most recent year may not be final and are subject to revision.

**DATA SOURCE**