

FOOD MATTERS TO THE ECONOMY

FOOD SYSTEM JOBS ARE GROWING

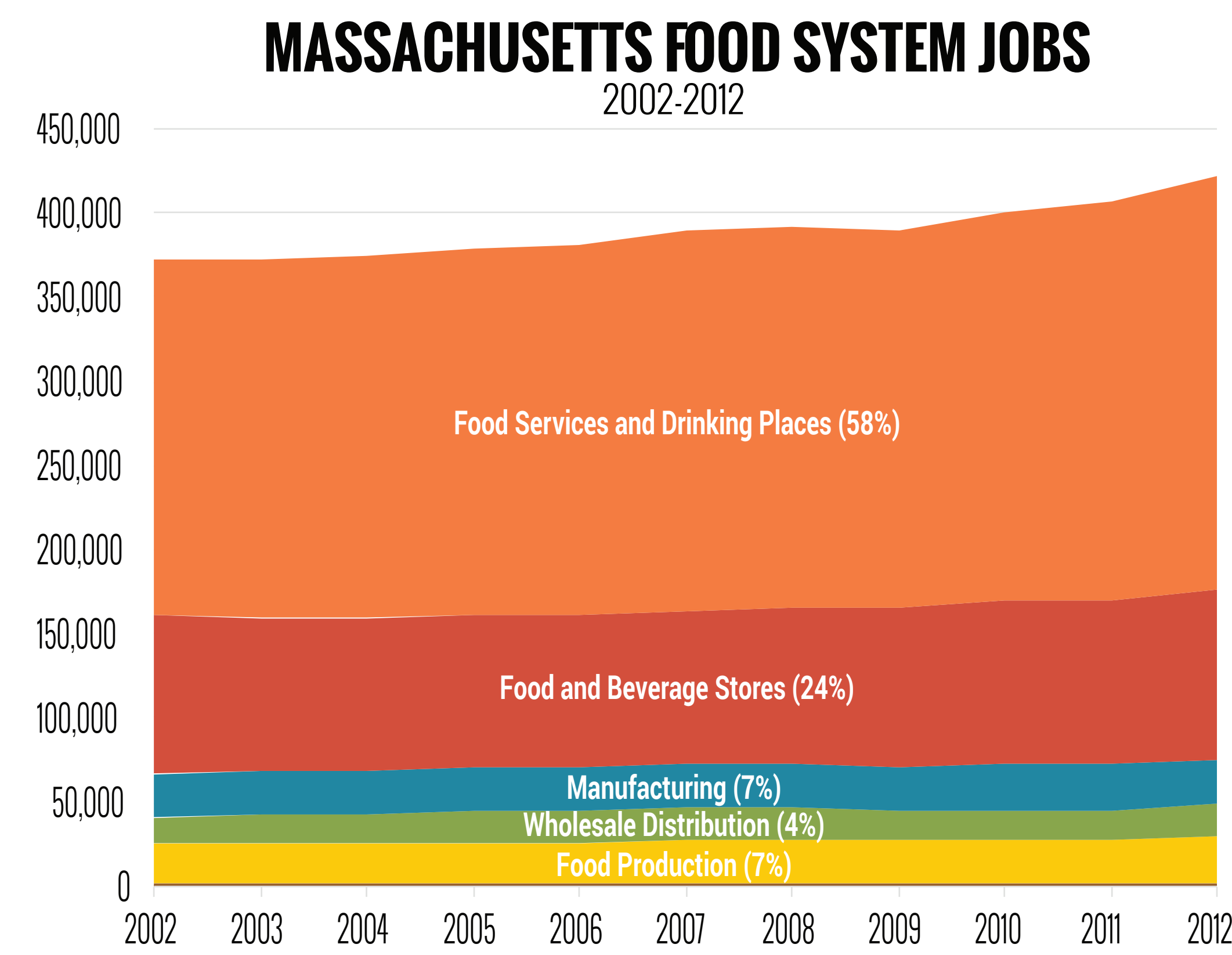
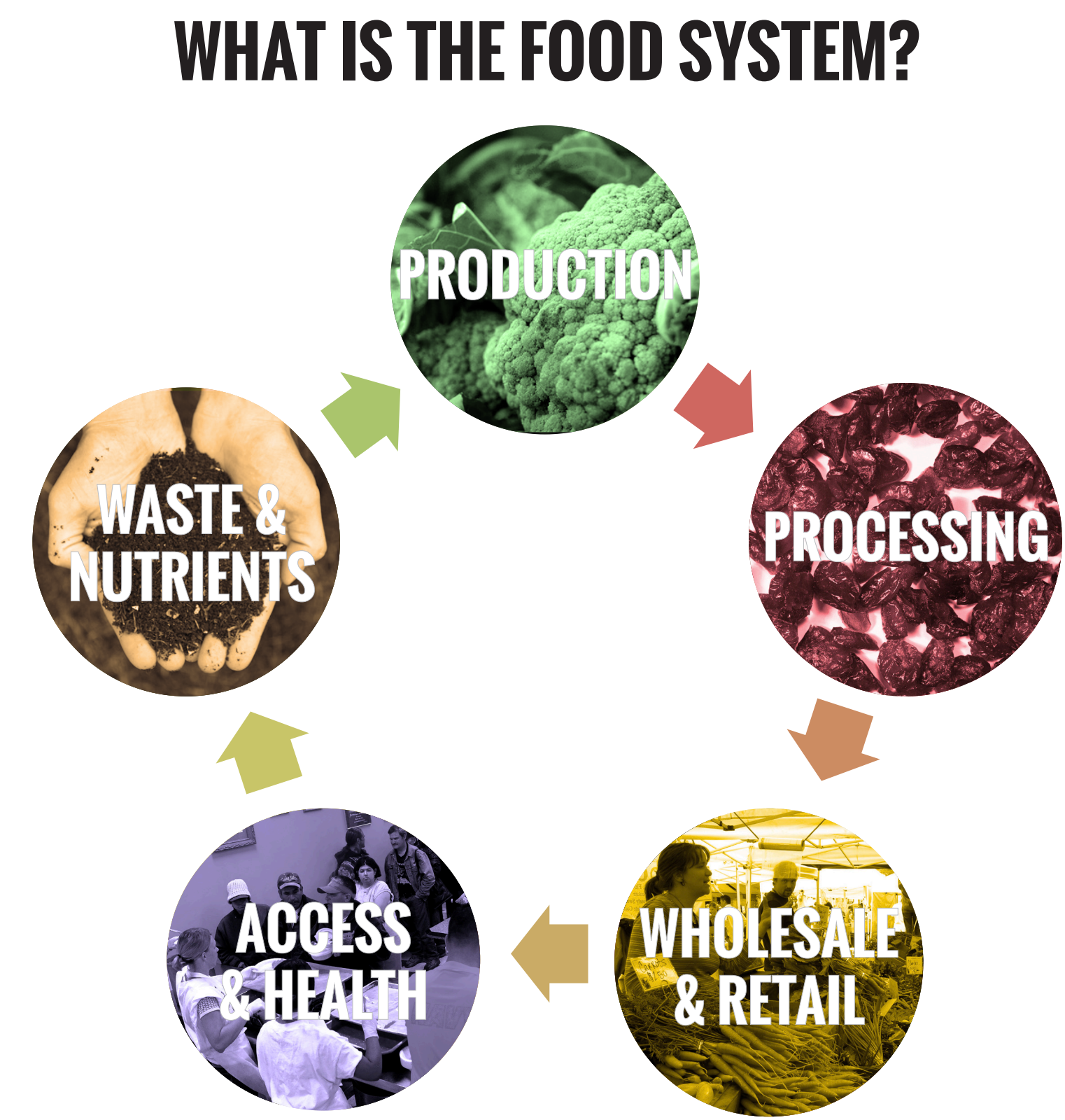
The Massachusetts food system encompasses every stage of the food production and consumption process, from growing the food to selling it to eating it. The five stages identified for the **Massachusetts Food System Plan** are **Production, Processing, Wholesale and Retail Distribution, Access and Public Health, and Waste and Nutrient Recovery**. Every stage of the system is important to the Massachusetts economy in terms of jobs and revenue.

There are approximately **420,000 jobs**¹ in food systems sectors, and food systems workers make up approximately **10% of the Massachusetts workforce**.² Between 2002 and 2012 **food system jobs increased 13%**.¹

Food service jobs, such as those in restaurants and bars, make **more than half** of food system jobs, and **grew 17%** between 2002 and 2012.¹

After food service jobs and jobs in food and beverage stores, **food production jobs**, those in farm work and operation, make up the next largest share of the food systems industry at **7%**, and **grew the fastest**, at **21%**.¹

Jobs in **food manufacturing** remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2012, at **6% growth**, and those in **wholesale distribution grew 17%**.¹ The only food system sector to lose jobs over that time was farm inputs, which makes up less than 1% of total food system jobs.¹



Sources: Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development ES-202, Census Nonemployer Statistics, USDA Census of Agriculture

FOOD SYSTEM WORKERS ARE DIVERSE

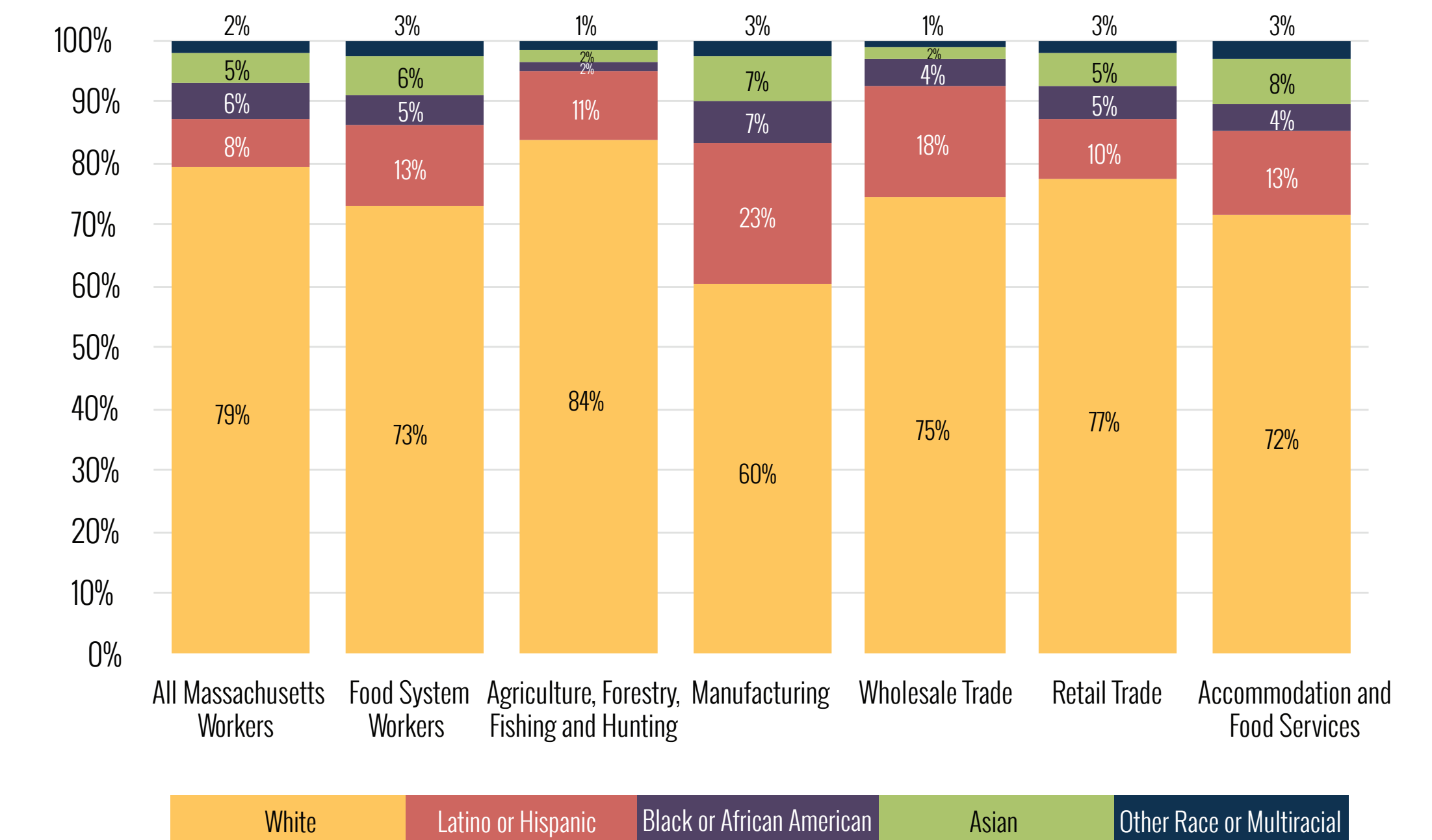
Massachusetts' food system workforce is fairly reflective of the state's overall workforce by race and ethnicity. People of color make up 21% of Massachusetts' overall workforce but **27% of its food system workforce**.² There are, however, clear differences by industry sector.

The food system sector employing the **largest number of workers of color** is **food services**, with roughly **80,000 workers of color**. 28% of workers in food services are workers of color.²

The food system sector with the **largest share of workers of color** is the manufacturing sector, with **40% workers are people of color**, or about **10,000 workers of color**.² Manufacturing jobs are good jobs that are more likely to be full time with better wages than jobs in the service sector.^{1,2}

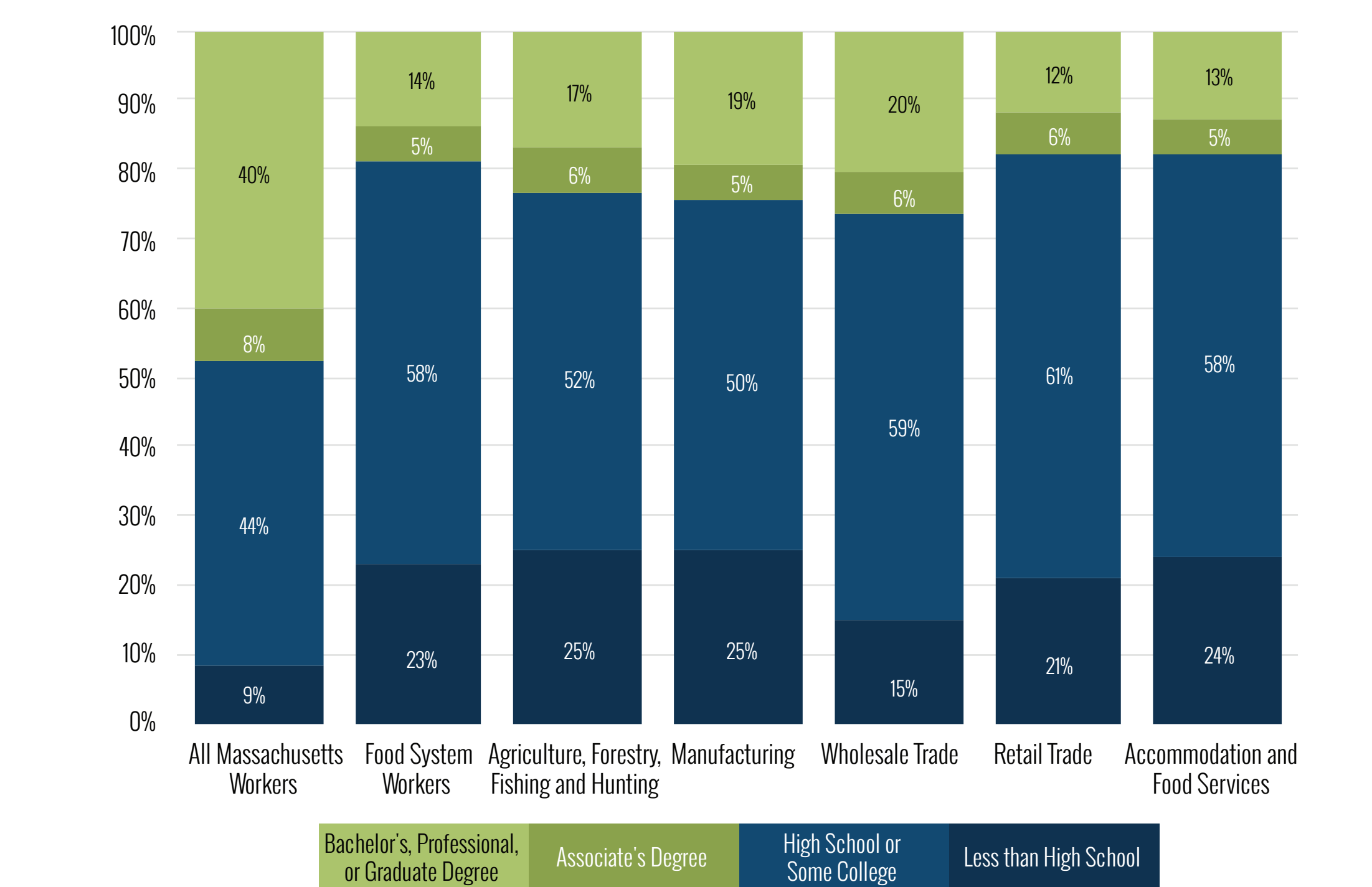
Food systems jobs may provide **opportunities for workers with less educational attainment** than is typical in the Massachusetts workforce. Only 20% of food systems workers have college degree or greater, compared 48% of Massachusetts workers overall.² **The majority of food systems workers (58%) have a high school diploma** or a year or two of college, and **22% of food systems workers have less than a high school diploma**.²

FOOD SYSTEM WORKERS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample, 2007-2011

FOOD SYSTEM WORKERS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample, 2007-2011

Sources:
1. Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development ES-202, Census Nonemployer Statistics, USDA Census of Agriculture
2. U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample, 2007-2011

MASSACHUSETTS FOOD SYSTEM PLAN