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# by the numbers

## New year, new outlook.

Consider this a “state of the state” snapshot of Berkshire County. “There are more opportunities here in the Berkshires than there are qualified workers, especially in nursing, physical therapy, engineering, and education,” says Heather Boulger, MassHire’s executive director.

**3.8%** Decline in population, 2010-2019, from 131,275 to 126,348 residents (U.S. Census). The only increase was in Williamstown (+3%), with Williams College’s expansion. North Adams had the steepest loss (-6%).

**1,248** Berkshire jobs posted on the state database (JobQuest), though Boulger puts that closer to 3,000 with businesses that hire locally.

**7,500** Jobs that open up annually in Berkshire County in terms of turnover in existing positions.

**37** Average business days (or seven weeks) to fill a job in the region, compared to 26.5 days nationally.

**2.8%** Unemployment rate as of November 2019, down from 3.2% a year ago.

**11%** Population that is self-employed.