



BERKSHIRE WORKFORCE BOARD

FACT SHEET

BUILDING TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE

MISSION

TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP
FOR WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT IN
BERKSHIRE COUNTY BY
ALIGNING EDUCATION AND
TRAINING WITH LOCAL
LABOR MARKET NEEDS.

TRAINING RESOURCES

- ▼ Workforce Training Fund
- ▼ Industry Specific Training
- ▼ Apprenticeship & On-the-Job Training
- ▼ Work Share & Rapid Response – for companies in transition

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

- ▼ College & Career Readiness in EVERY Berkshire Middle and High School
- ▼ Career Awareness & Exploration
- ▼ Specialized Training, Internships & Work Experience
- ▼ Summer Jobs4Youth

Job Vacancy Data –JobQuest – 1,450 jobs (1/29/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Transp./Material Moving	*297
Healthcare	247
Sales	191
Management	122
Office/Admin Support	110
Architect/Engineering	79
Community/Social Services	54
Computer/Math	47
Food Prep/Serving	46
Personal Care and Service	43
Education/Training/Library	39
Protective Service	39
Business & Finance	29
Building & Grounds	28
Arts/Design/Entertainment	27

*There were 273 CDL driver jobs listed in the last 30 days.

Indeed – 1,700 job listings
LinkedIn – 1,520 job listings
Simply Hired – 1,164 job listings
Berkshire Jobs – 227 job listings

Top skills needed

- Communication (clearly articulate, actively listen, follow directions)
- Management (leadership, be proactive, take initiative, constructive criticism)
- Computer (Microsoft package, basic programming, social media)
- Industry-specific (engineers, nurses, laborers, customer service, accounting, tellers)
- Technical (technicians, programmers, trades)

42% companies have persistent job vacancies – engineers, residential support, laborers, management professionals, technicians, teachers, nurses, tellers

LABOR MARKET STATS

Berkshire County

- ▼ Labor Market Supply: - December 2019 Berkshire unemployment rate 3.1% (MA 2.4%; US 3.5%)
- ▼ 66,121 in labor force (a -0.10% change from 2018); 64,075 employed (a 0.44% change from 2018); 2,046 unemployed (a -14.43% change from 2018)
- ▼ Educational Attainment – Berkshire County has fewer high school dropouts and more people who complete Associate Degrees and pursue post-secondary (9.3% vs. 11.1%), but smaller share with Bachelor's degree (30% vs 38.7%)
- ▼ Aging workforce - 18.6% over 65 compared to 13.6% in MA
- ▼ Talented, innovative, creative workforce. Collaborative and entrepreneurial spirit
- ▼ Growing immigrant population; decline in those ages 25-44
- ▼ Other Workforce issues – limited transportation; services oriented; limited data collection (low population); economic growth (lower share of degrees disadvantage of attracting STEM)