



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 – 1,972 jobs (10/20/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Healthcare	412
Sales	285
Office/Admin Support	273
Management	105
Food Prep/Serving	104
Education/Training/Library	98
Transp./Material Moving	87
Architect/Engineering	85
Computer/Math	76
Production	70
Building & Grounds	66
Personal Care and Service	63
Community/Social Services	58
Business & Finance	42
Installation/Maintenance	42
Arts/Design/Entertainment	40
Protective Service	26

Indeed – 1,841 job listings

LinkedIn – 1,588 job listings

Berkshire Jobs – 252 job listings

the jobs thing* – 24 job listings

*highlights full-time, \$40K+ jobs in Berkshire County

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: - September 2020 Berkshire unemployment rate 9.2% (MA 9.5%; US 7.9%)
- ▼ 64,496 in labor force (a 0.15% change from 2019); 58,569 employed (a -6.25% change from 2019); 6,727 unemployed (a 207.9% change from 2019; 12.3% decrease from August)
- ▼ 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)