



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 – 1,982 jobs (11/25/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Healthcare	380
Sales	292
Office/Admin Support	230
Food Prep/Serving	135
Management	121
Architect/Engineering	91
Production	83
Computer/Math	76
Business & Finance	75
Personal Care and Service	72
Education/Training/Library	69
Community/Social Services	65
Building & Grounds	63
Transp./Material Moving	57
Installation/Maintenance	55
Arts/Design/Entertainment	35
Protective Service	34

Indeed – 1,900 job listings

LinkedIn – 1,457 job listings

Berkshire Jobs – 233 job listings

the jobs thing* – 19 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 6.9% (MA 6.9%; US 6.9%)
- ▼ 61,301 in labor force (a -3.04% change from 2019); 57,067 employed (a -8.73% change from 2019); 4,243 unemployed (a 149.74% change from 2019; 29.14% decrease from September)
- ▼ 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)