



# 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 – 1,257 jobs (5/26/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Healthcare	294
Sales	187
Management	111
Office/Admin Support	109
Architect/Engineering	65
Food Prep/Serving	45
Education/Training/Library	44
Community/Social Services	43
Transp./Material Moving	41
Personal Care and Service	38
Protective Service	37
Building & Grounds	31
Computer/Math	30
Business & Finance	22
Arts/Design/Entertainment	18
Production	17
Installation/Maintenance	17

Indeed – 1,265 job listings  
LinkedIn – 927 job listings  
Berkshire Jobs – 184 job listings  
the jobs thing\* – 20 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: - April 2020 Berkshire unemployment rate 16.6% (MA 15.9%; US 14.7%)
- ▼ 57,586 in labor force (a -9.94% change from 2019); 48,003 employed (a -22.17% change from 2019); 9,583 unemployed (a 323.28% change from 2019)
- ▼ 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)