



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 – 1,484 jobs (6/23/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Healthcare	315
Sales	239
Office/Admin Support	160
Management	100
Transp./Material Moving	86
Education/Training/Library	71
Food Prep/Serving	58
Architect/Engineering	52
Building & Grounds	51
Personal Care and Service	50
Community/Social Services	46
Production	43
Installation/Maintenance	41
Protective Service	40
Computer/Math	36
Business & Finance	33
Arts/Design/Entertainment	32

Indeed – 1,340 job listings
LinkedIn – 1,280 job listings
Berkshire Jobs – 209 job listings
the jobs thing* – 16 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: - May 2020 Berkshire unemployment rate 15.6% (MA 16.3 %; US 13.3%)
- ▼ 59,491 in labor force (a -7.89% change from 2019); 50,191 employed (a -19.60% change from 2019); 9,300 unemployed (a 329.76% 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)