



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 – 1,549 jobs (7/21/20); the BC vacancy rate is 5.1% (compared to MA 4.8%). 45% prof./technical 55% Entry/ PT

Healthcare	369
Sales	246
Office/Admin Support	186
Management	102
Education/Training/Library	85
Community/Social Services	64
Food Prep/Serving	59
Transp./Material Moving	59
Personal Care and Service	54
Architect/Engineering	51
Production	46
Building & Grounds	44
Arts/Design/Entertainment	37
Protective Service	36
Installation/Maintenance	28
Business & Finance	27
Computer/Math	25

Indeed – 1,573 job listings
LinkedIn – 1,305 job listings
Berkshire Jobs – 219 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: - June 2020 Berkshire unemployment rate 16.2% (MA 17.5 %; US 11.1%)
- ▼ 63,772 in labor force (a -5.16% change from 2019); 53,435 employed (a -17.68% change from 2019); 10,337 unemployed (a 343.08% 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)