



# 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 Youth Work Experience

#### Job Vacancy Data – JobQuest – 2,250 jobs (7/27/21)

Healthcare	390
Sales	329
Office/Admin Support	239
Management	177
Food Prep/Serving	155
Education/Training/Library	142
Building & Grounds	98
Community/Social Services	88
Business & Finance	87
Arts/Design/Entertainment	85
Personal Care and Service	82
Architect/Engineering	77
Transp./Material Moving	76
Production	50
Installation/Maintenance	47
Computer/Math	39
Construction & Extraction	27
Protective Service	25
Life/Physical/Social Science	21

Indeed – 2,980 job listings

LinkedIn – 2,759 job listings

Berkshire Jobs – 378 job listings

the jobs thing\* – 46 job listings

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

#### Top skills needed

- Customer & Client Support
- Communication (clearly articulate, actively listen, follow directions)
- Computer (Microsoft package, basic programming, social media)
- Management (leadership, be proactive, take initiative, constructive criticism)
- 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

#### LABOR MARKET STATS

##### Berkshire County

- ▼ Labor Market Supply: - June 2021 Berkshire unemployment rate 6.1% (MA 5.4%; US 5.9%)
- ▼ 61,968 in labor force (a 2.00% decrease from 2020); 58,187 employed (a 6.74% increase from 2020); 3,781 unemployed (a 56.63% decrease from 2020)
- ▼ 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 – 22.7% over 65 compared to 16.2% 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)