



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 – 2,339 jobs (8/24/21)

Healthcare	359
Sales	359
Office/Admin Support	266
Food Prep/Serving	185
Management	173
Education/Training/Library	149
Building & Grounds	113
Arts/Design/Entertainment	110
Community/Social Services	96
Personal Care and Service	87
Transp./Material Moving	80
Architect/Engineering	78
Business & Finance	70
Installation/Maintenance	49
Production	40
Construction & Extraction	36
Computer/Math	31
Protective Service	29
Life/Physical/Social Science	17

Indeed – 3,158 job listings

LinkedIn – 2,473 job listings

Berkshire Jobs – 378 job listings

the jobs thing* – 47 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: - July 2021 Berkshire unemployment rate 6.3% (MA 5.7%; US 5.4%)
- ▼ 61,681 in labor force (a 0.95% decrease from 2020); 57,777 employed (a 3.04% increase from 2020); 3,904 unemployed (a 37.04% 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)