

**PLACE** MATTERS

# From Pipelines to Informing Place- Based Strategies

FOR MAINE'S OLDER YOUTH

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# Contents

<b>ABOUT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>DATA OVERVIEW</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>DATA BY DETERMINANT</b>	<b>13</b>
Household Economic Well-Being	14
Community Financial Security	15
Economic Inclusion	16
Housing Affordability	17
Community Security	19
Social Belonging	20
Area Economic Growth	21
Human Capital	22
Youth Homelessness	23
Youth Justice Involvement	24
Child Welfare System Involvement	25
Mental & Behavioral Health Care	26
School Pushout	28

## **DATA BY COUNTY**

**29**

Androscoggin County	30
Aroostook County	32
Cumberland County	34
Franklin County	36
Hancock County	38
Kennebec County	40
Knox County	42
Lincoln County	44
Oxford County	46
Penobscot County	48
Piscataquis County	50
Sagadahoc County	52
Somerset County	54
Waldo County	56
Washington County	58
York County	60

## **ENDNOTES**

**62**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**74**

PART ONE

# Pipelines to Informing Place-Based Strategies

## ABOUT

# The Place Matters Project

The goal of the Place Matters project is to translate data, knowledge, and best practices into sustainable solutions that are responsive to locally identified assets so that all transition aged youth (14–24) in Maine thrive into adulthood.

The Place Matters team includes a mix of researchers, policy advisors, data visualization experts, and directly impacted youth who collaborate to develop capacity for results focused, data-informed solutions to social and justice policy issues in Maine. The Place Matters project is housed at the Justice Policy Program within the Cutler Institute, at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service and is supported by a collective of funders including: The John T. Gorman Foundation, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Rocking Moon Foundation, the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, and the Maine Economic Improvement Fund. Place Matters staff work collaboratively using mixed methods and participatory processes that integrate the best available quantitative data with local voices. This report is one in a series, and presents data snapshots of all sixteen counties in Maine to provide a baseline for stakeholders for community assessment.

## Our Three Core Values

### SYSTEM INNOVATION

We are committed to working towards universal goals and targeted reinvestment into a community-based continuum of care based on analysis of underlying indicators of economic and social well-being.

### DATA RESOURCES

We are informed by and accountable to the best available data across systems and communities, including the underlying factors and forces of place that shape outcomes.

### COMMUNITY INCLUSION

We engage and activate community assets and accountability in local problem solving and adaptation.

**For more information or to work with the Place Matters project, please visit:**  
[justicepolicyprogr.wixsite.com/imagineanewfuture/place-matters](https://justicepolicyprogr.wixsite.com/imagineanewfuture/place-matters)

## INTRODUCTION

# Understanding Place-based Characteristics

There are currently 174,500 youth aged 14–24 who are transitioning to adulthood in Maine. Approximately 1,300 Maine youth are experiencing homelessness, 9,400 are disconnected from school, 8,200 are receiving behavioral health services, 13,400 are involved with the child welfare system, and 2,600 are involved with the juvenile justice system.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, although we do not know the extent of the overlap in Maine, we know anecdotally that many of these youth are involved in multiple systems. This is supported by national data that show substantial numbers of youth experiencing involvement in more than one of these systems.<sup>2</sup>

In order to reduce these numbers and develop the best continuum of care for Maine youth, there must be a better understanding of the factors that are occurring within Maine communities. This knowledge is critical to implement the recommendations in the first report of this series, *Place Matters: Aligning Investments in a Community-Based Continuum of Care for Maine Youth Transitioning to Adulthood*.<sup>3</sup> The universal goal then, as now, is that all Maine transition aged (14–24) youth thrive into adulthood.

**In working toward that goal, places matter, and this report examines how structural, community-based risk factors that are known to contribute to youth behavior differ from place to place. While structural and community-based factors are widely acknowledged as crucial to youth outcomes in social science research, current policies do not reflect this understanding.** Individual actions like delinquency emerge from place-based factors and are not solely about the intrinsic qualities of the people living in those places. Understanding youth outcomes as a product of place is critical for both policy discussions and to inform strategies for how to manage and reduce negative youth outcomes. (See sidebar). Thus, a consideration of how to address youth behavior within community settings must necessarily begin with analysis of relevant factors disaggregated by geographic location.

Youth who have experienced educational, emotional, behavioral, and family systems challenges require data-informed investment by communities and existing systems to provide them with more supports to meet their goals and thrive into adulthood. This work requires an ongoing commitment to building and enhancing **system innovation, data resources, and community inclusion**. The Place Matters project series of reports align with these three elements. (See inside cover). The previous report in this series<sup>3</sup> proposes a model of a cross-systems, community-based continuum of care for transition aged youth in Maine with policy recommendations for how to build such a continuum.

To help guide and inform the implementation of that first report's recommendations, **this report addresses data resources. It presents data snapshots of the all sixteen counties in Maine for a number of measures that are related to system involvement.**

The measures summarized here have limitations, but together they serve as a starting point and highlight what is needed in terms of data in order to monitor the systems affecting Maine youth. These data include indicators of early involvement in systems such as the youth justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems. A summary of the key data points is provided, as well as recommendations.

Forthcoming reports will address community inclusion by representing the assets and opportunities identified by communities and lifting up youth voice.

## Adverse Childhood Experiences are fueled by Adverse Community Experiences

Research shows that individual risk and protective factors are shaped by structural, place-based processes. **These place-based processes, described as “social determinants . . . are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.”**<sup>4</sup> Challenging explanations that individual choice drives criminal behavior, research has revealed that social and economic factors shape predispositions to and patterns of delinquency.<sup>5,6,7,8,9</sup> There is a reciprocal process in which the self is shaped by the systems that we dwell within, and this in turn shapes the society that we are a part of.<sup>10</sup> Similar to public health research that points to social determinants in shaping disparities in health outcomes, research identifies key processes that influence youth vulnerability, risky youth behavior, and poor youth outcomes.<sup>11</sup> These processes, community characteristics, or *determinants* include: concentrated poverty,<sup>12,13</sup> economic inequality,<sup>14</sup> racial segregation,<sup>15,16</sup> housing quality/stability,<sup>17</sup> school quality,<sup>18,19,20</sup> exposure to crime,<sup>21</sup> social capital/networks,<sup>22</sup> and struggling public schools.<sup>23</sup> Communities in which individuals experience such adversity have been described as “adverse community environments.”<sup>24</sup> The concept of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) has become familiar to child service providers; ACEs grow out of adverse community environments. The view of adverse community environments as entry points into systems has been less discussed and must be included in sustainable policy problem solving.

## BACKGROUND

# Justice By Geography

The discretion of decision makers, availability and quality of services, and access to interventions each affect the resources offered to youth and families at the local level. Thus, the experience of youth at risk for removal from communities varies across different towns, counties, and regions of Maine.

One example of justice by geography is the availability of community-based interventions. Despite considerable evidence about the efficacy of such services across systems,<sup>25</sup> community-based options are not consistently available or accessible in many parts of Maine. Prior Maine-based research on the children's behavioral health system<sup>26</sup> has revealed sizable gaps in the accessibility, proximity, appropriateness, quality, and coordination of services, particularly as youth transition to adulthood. What some have begun to refer to as "human service deserts"<sup>27</sup> exist in some of the most economically challenged areas of Maine. **When communities are under-resourced, an overreliance on placements outside of home communities prevails.** Such placements may be emergency departments in hospitals, residential treatment facilities, incarceration, or confinement in facilities out of state; whichever they are, they are temporary, and they are expensive in both the short and long term.

As another example, a youth who is arrested in one part of the state for a particular offense may have a very different experience than another youth

who is arrested for the same offense in a different town or county. Prior Maine research on youth in the justice system has demonstrated this geographic and demographic variation, sometimes referred to as "justice by geography,"<sup>28</sup> across a number of areas, including recidivism,<sup>29</sup> disproportionate minority contact,<sup>30</sup> court accessibility,<sup>31</sup> mental health service availability,<sup>32</sup> and youth incarceration.<sup>33</sup>

It must be acknowledged here that the experiences and needs of youth often extend beyond the boundaries and accountability of any one system, be it public, community, or family system. A recent national study of youth with a history in the child welfare system identified entry into foster care as a factor behind homelessness or housing instability.<sup>34</sup> Other research finds that a substantial number of young people involved with the juvenile justice system have experienced persistent educational challenges as well as involvement in the child welfare<sup>35</sup> and mental health systems.<sup>36</sup> The cumulative effects of deepening system involvement over time are often referred to as "pipelines," such as the "school-to-prison pipeline,"<sup>37,38</sup> the "trauma-to-prison pipeline,"<sup>39</sup> the "child welfare to juvenile justice pipeline,"<sup>40</sup> and even the "womb to foster care pipeline."<sup>41</sup> These pipelines are evidence of overreliance on practices that have questionable efficacy and remove young people from their families and home communities.

















To disrupt these pipelines into negative youth and community outcomes, investments in a local continuum of care that provides positive opportunities must be made. These investments must be sensitive to place, be flexible within and across communities, and be targeted toward the communities that are most in need. The people who make up systems, organizations, communities, and families all play a critical role in shaping and sustaining a continuum of care. **No one entity can effectively create and sustain this continuum; it is essential for communities, institutions, and systems, including the behavioral health, child welfare, and youth justice systems, to work together toward shared outcomes to interrupt pipelines into systems in Maine.** Doing this effectively begins with an understanding of what forces are at play. This can be followed by identifying assets that currently exist to positively impact youth outcomes as well as identifying those that could and should exist.

DATA OVERVIEW

# Resources in this Report

**The goal of this report is to provide institutions, systems, and communities with data on the structural forces that exist across Maine in order to better understand and respond to youth outcomes in each community.** With this goal in mind, this report presents a set of nine place-based economic and social determinant indicators identified as shaping outcomes for youth and families by a diverse body of research and a set of seven system outcome indicators. Snapshots of the determinants and outcomes can be found at the end of the report (See pages 12 to 62).

DETERMINANTS	
 Household Economic Well-being	 Community Financial Security
 Economic Inclusion	 Housing Affordability
 School Quality	 Community Security
 Social Belonging	 Area Economic Growth
 Human Capital	 Youth Homelessness
 Youth Justice Involvement	 Child Welfare System Involvement
 Educational Pushout	 Mental & Behavioral Health Care

One way of looking at the indicators presented here involves determining if a given county indicator is favorable or unfavorable in comparison to the state. The exception for this analysis is with the three indicators chosen for the mental and behavioral health care system involvement outcome. For Targeted Case Management (TCM), as well as individualized education plans (IEP) and 504 plans, favorability is less straightforward, and so these were left out of this comparison.

It might be expected that counties with a high number of unfavorable determinant indicators would correspond to a high number of unfavorable early system involvement indicators. This was the case for some counties. Androscoggin, for instance, ranked unfavorably on seven out of nine determinant indicators and likewise ranked unfavorably on four out of seven early system involvement indicators. However, other counties, such as Penobscot County, defied this expectation with seven out of nine unfavorable determinant indicators and only one unfavorable early system involvement indicator.

This report also presents county snapshots for all sixteen counties. The data provided in this report are intended as a starting point for organizations, systems, and communities to understand the structural, place-based forces that drive youth experiences in Maine, including system involvement. Furthermore, they illuminate areas of opportunity where Maine's systems and communities can commit to actions that will support a continuum of care. Communities are improving their environments, many with very little in the way of the resources that are needed. The next step is to make connections between these data and the goal of interrupting youth pipelines into systems. This necessitates finding the strengths that already exist, exploring the stories behind the hopeful data, and working towards shared goals that will result in more improvements to data as well as to youth well-being in Maine.

RECOMMENDATIONS

## Invest & Access

For Maine to thrive, there must be a robust strategy of reinvestment that interrupts pipelines by resourcing and revitalizing a continuum of care for young people in every community. The next step must be for all communities and systems to recommit to participation in and leading of this work. They must assess the assets and opportunities unique to each place and develop toward universal goals starting from baseline data, such as the data presented in this report. This requires agencies, organizations, and groups to step into a backbone role for communities and to facilitate the use of these data to create shared goals that will address youth pipelines into systems. There are places where this is already happening, but there are many counties in need of resources, support, and momentum to move forward. Working together, Maine communities, families, and young people can ensure that Maine youth and communities are better off.

## Invest in ongoing data integrity, literacy, and capacity

This project revealed several data blind spots; for example, it is currently not known how many young people in Maine are multi-system involved, though national research supports identification of such youth as a best practice.<sup>42</sup> It has been over twenty years since former Governor Angus King established the Children's Cabinet with a mission to measurably improve well-being and the commitment to create a 'federated system' using an integrated case management system that is electronically linked.<sup>43</sup> However, interoperability of system data capacity still does not exist. Similarly, despite knowing nationally that young people who are systems involved wind up in adult systems at high rates,<sup>44,45</sup> it is currently unknown in Maine how many young people who have experience in child-serving systems continue system involvement after turning eighteen. Maine has no system for tracking who is better or worse off as a result of interventions young people experience.

**Most alarming is the lack of data availability on subpopulations to assess disparities.** Because Maine numbers are so small, understanding how social determinants and system involvement break down among subpopulations is difficult. In some areas, data are not even accessible due to issues of confidentiality, but this in no way means

that disparities do not exist. Issues faced by youth of color, LGBTQ+, and gender diverse young people are illuminated when exploration is done at a qualitative or personal level. The Place Matters project plans to undertake exploration and analysis of these data to the extent that is possible in future reports,<sup>46</sup> but there is a need for much more intensive assessment of subpopulation needs and assets to address current disparities. This requires a willingness across system to disaggregate data to facilitate accountability to closing opportunity gaps.

Greater data capacity, transparency, and cooperation between systems can shed light on the numbers of multi-system involved youth in Maine and aid stakeholders in testing the impact of strategies and solutions. This will take an investment of time and resources but is necessary for the state to make progress and to facilitate evaluation and ongoing quality improvement. Several states have shown leadership in data availability and transparency. Connecticut is one example, with their Connecticut Open Data portal,<sup>47</sup> which facilitates the sharing and use of executive branch agency data.

Data development must also focus on creating robust, shared performance measures at population, system, and program levels to track the number of young people transitioning to adulthood, how well they are being served, and whether they are better off as a result of systemic responses.

## Assess and activate community assets

While research is clear that place is a driver of risk, it is also where healing can occur. **Therefore, the key recommendation of this report is for all communities to assess and activate community assets to share accountability to positive youth outcomes.** The forthcoming *Place Matters: Invest in Androscoggin County Asset Mapping Toolkit* is a companion to this report and is intended as a guide in following this key recommendation.

Assessing and activating assets will not be possible without backbone organizations and agencies to spearhead this work, convene stakeholders, and drive efforts toward shared results and performance measures. This reflects two recommendations made in the previous report, namely to: “align results” and “authorize leadership.”<sup>48</sup> The newly formed Children’s Cabinet is a positive step in this direction.

There are counties in Maine, including Androscoggin, Somerset, Oxford, and Kennebec, where social determinant profiles and rates of system involvement are higher than Maine averages for a high number of indicators. These are places where focused investments could not only improve community well-being but provide leadership for other counties struggling with similar challenges. In these places, targeted investments could be

made, and there must be organizations, groups, or agencies to move this work forward, along with community inclusion to shape and sustain those efforts.

In some counties, such organizations, groups, and agencies already exist and have already made strides. For example, correctional leaders in mid-coast Maine used a results-focused approach to interrupt an emerging mental health to justice pipeline.<sup>49</sup> In that region, 50% of new detention admissions were coming from residential placements. Local community leaders across the Maine Department of Corrections, Sweetser North Residential Programs, Belfast Police Department, Waldo County Sheriff’s Office, Department of Health and Human Services, Disability Rights Maine, and several other community stakeholders worked collaboratively to reverse this trend, reducing the number of police callouts on youth in residential treatment by 25% and the number of youth formally charged with new offenses by 50%.<sup>50</sup> Ongoing collaboration and alignment across systems and communities is essential to building resilient communities and youth.



PART TWO

# Data Resources



# Indicators of Economic and Social Well-Being & Early System Involvement

The following pages contain data for each indicator of economic and social well-being, as well as early system involvement, for Maine. Indicators are not presented in a particular order (by rank or importance) but are roughly arranged in related groupings. For each indicator, a description is included as well as an explanation of why each indicator was chosen, a summary of the data's utility and limitations, and additional information and resources.

Many indicators were chosen from the American Community Survey (ACS) because it is one of the most reliable sources of county-level population data. These benefits come at the expense of timeliness, however, as the most recent data for many of the indicators is for year 2017. This creates a frustrating lag for stakeholders looking to measure impact in real time. Other indicators were not available at the desired level of detail. Race and gender data from the Department of Education, for example, were heavily redacted. Race was likewise missing from many records obtained from the Department of Health and Human Services. These are issues that could be remedied for future work.

## A Note on Equity and Inclusion

It is important to acknowledge that a full discussion of subpopulations, or disaggregation of data to consider demographic disparities for gender, youth of color, or LGBTQ+ youth, is not included in this report. A full analysis of equity and inclusion is intended for a future report in this series.



# Household Economic Well-Being

## WHAT'S THE STORY?

Incomes did not substantially change between 2010 and 2017. Since analysis of this data considered inflation, this means that household incomes haven't improved, but they also haven't worsened in that period of time. In 2017, the average median household income in Maine was \$53,024, but at the county level the average ranged from a low of \$38,797 in Piscataquis to a high of \$65,702 in Cumberland.

## What's missing?

The cost of living fluctuates across the state. Thus, while income is higher in Cumberland than in Piscataquis, it also costs more to live in Cumberland than to live in Piscataquis County. Also, while median family income is a useful measure, it does not tell a complete story because averages obscure the differences experienced by families and individuals within each county. The data provided are at the county level, but research shows that the neighborhoods in which children grow up are a good predictor of individual outcomes,<sup>52</sup> and within each neighborhood, families belonging to different subgroups also have predictably different outcomes.<sup>53</sup>

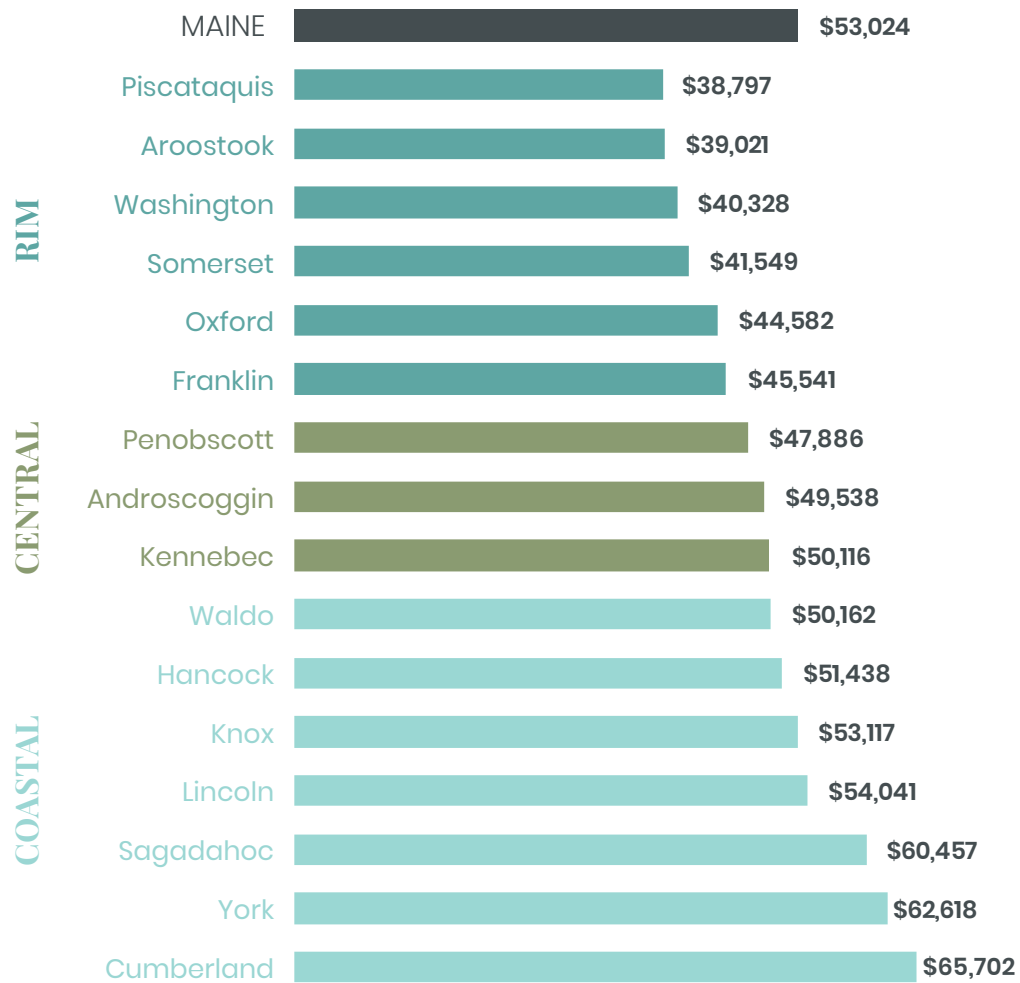
## Resource

The Opportunity Atlas<sup>54</sup> provides an interactive map of economic prosperity at a much more granular level, overlaid with demographic data and various other social outcomes experienced by people in each community.

The economic well-being of families impacts individual outcomes. Economic stability is directly tied to the ability of individuals and families to access quality school systems and housing, identify healthcare and educational needs, receive services or interventions to address those needs, and participate fully in the workforce and economic life of their communities.<sup>51</sup>

## Indicator: Median Family Income

The midpoint of income distribution in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth live in families or households that are economically secure.

## Data Source & Methodology

Estimates for median family income in Maine come from the American Community Survey (ACS), Selected Economic Characteristics Table (DP03). They are adjusted to 2017 dollars.

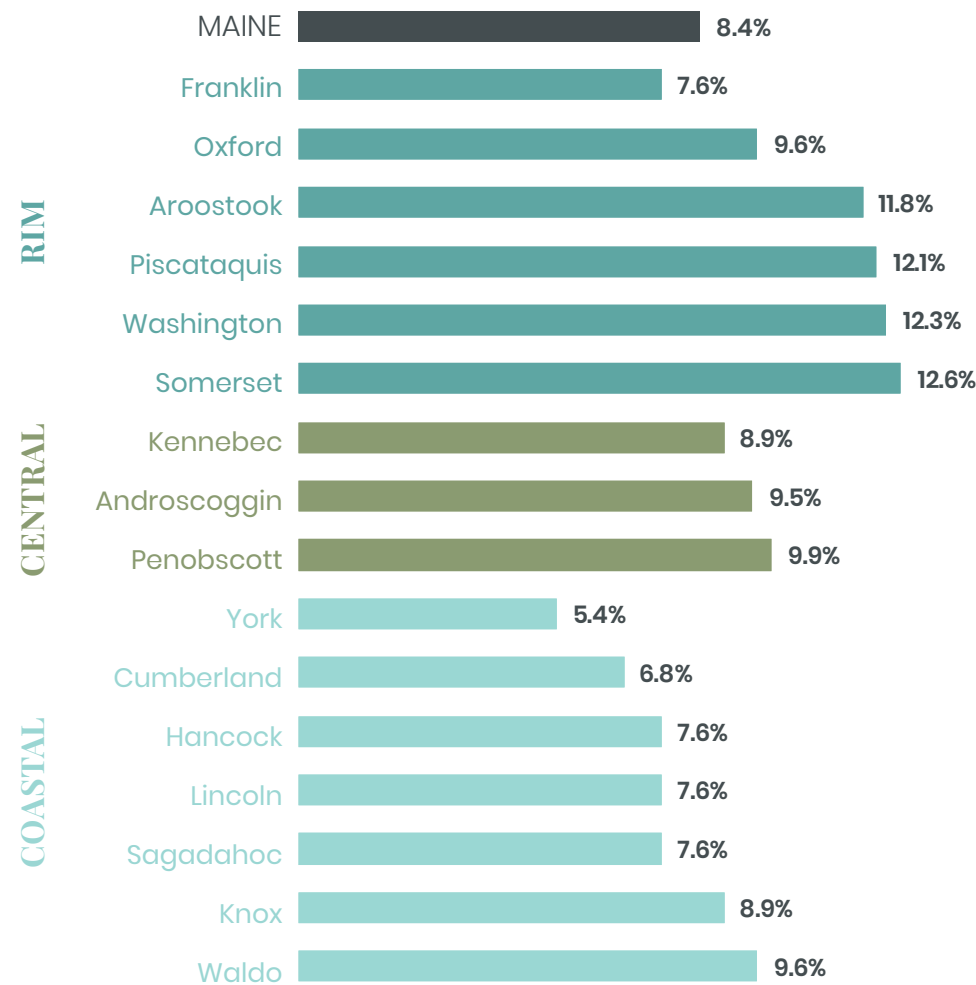


# Community Financial Security

Financial security, or the economic well-being of a community, influences family and individual outcomes. Young people who grow up in communities affected by poverty experience negative outcomes.<sup>55</sup> This is particularly true when poverty is concentrated, creating economically and socially isolated communities along racial lines.<sup>56</sup> These negative outcomes include experiencing less economic mobility over the course of a lifetime,<sup>57,58</sup> worse health outcomes,<sup>59</sup> increased exposure to and participation in crime and delinquency,<sup>60</sup> and more vulnerability to justice system involvement.<sup>61</sup>

## Indicator: Poverty

The percent of families below poverty line in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth live in communities that are economically secure.

### Data Source & Methodology

Poverty rates come directly from the American Community Survey (ACS), *Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families (S1702)*.

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

For most counties, the poverty rate remained fairly flat between 2010 and 2017. Some exceptions are Franklin County, which saw the largest decline in families living below the poverty line between 2010 and 2017; Washington and Somerset, which also decreased; and Aroostook, Kennebec, and Sagadahoc, which had small increases in the poverty rate between 2010 and 2017.

Approximately 8.4% of all Maine families were living below the poverty line in 2017, but this rate ranged from a low of 5.4% in York County to a high of 12.6% in Somerset County.

## What's missing?

These data do not convey whether poverty is concentrated in certain parts of these counties or whether it is dispersed. This level of understanding would require further analysis using data from a smaller geographical unit of measure.<sup>62</sup>

## Resource

Another useful proxy measure for financial security is the number of children living in food-insecure homes. KidsCount<sup>63</sup> reports county-level data on food insecurity. Maine Equal Justice Partners is providing leadership in the area of child poverty with the Invest in Tomorrow initiative, which is a collaborative of Maine organizations, businesses, and individuals working towards the shared result of cutting Maine's child poverty rate in half over the next decade<sup>64</sup>.



# Economic Inclusion

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Income inequality varies across the state. From 2010 to 2017, this rate increased in Maine overall. In 2017, the average Gini coefficient in Maine was .45. At the county level the rate ranged from .42 in Oxford County to .47 in Hancock County.

Nationally, the Gini index fluctuates between .42 as a low in Utah and .51 as a high in New York. Thus, the difference between Maine's highest and lowest rates, though small, represents a meaningful difference. Research has estimated that a 10% reduction in the Gini coefficient would result in a 3% to 4% reduction in mortality rates.<sup>69</sup>

## What's missing?

Though useful as a population level indicator, the Gini coefficient has limitations. It does not differentiate between low levels of inequality where everyone is in poverty and low levels of inequality where everyone is wealthy. It also does not measure the degree to which inequality is the result of structural barriers. For these reasons, the Gini index can be controversial and is best examined alongside other metrics such as poverty and housing affordability.

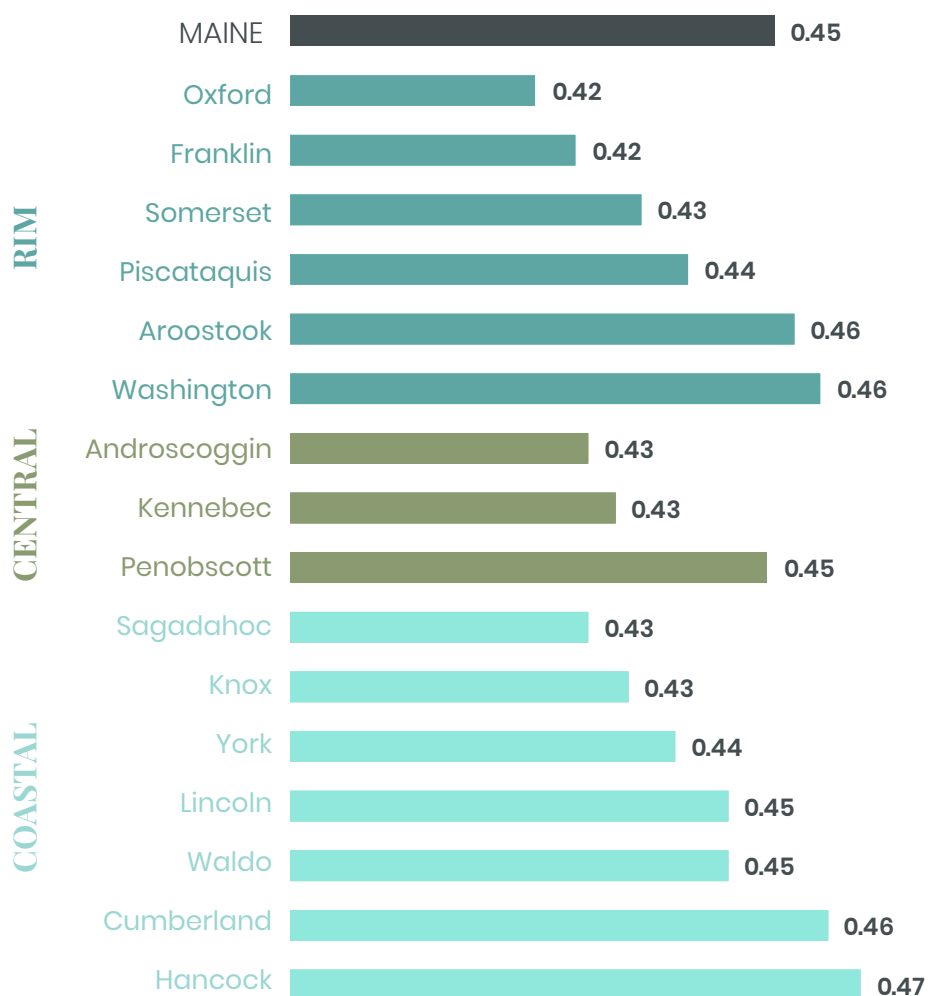
## Resource

**The Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society** recommends six evidence-based policies for reducing economic inequality.<sup>70</sup> These include increasing the minimum wage, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, building financial assets for working families, investing in education, making the tax code more progressive, and ending residential segregation.

Economic inclusion is a consideration of financial equity. In addition to the effects that financial insecurity has on individual outcomes, financial inequality has also been shown to adversely affect individual outcomes. In communities where economic opportunities and income are unequal, families and individuals who have a lesser share in the community's economic prosperity suffer worse health outcomes,<sup>65</sup> lower educational attainment,<sup>66</sup> and more vulnerability to crime<sup>67</sup> and justice system involvement.<sup>68</sup>

## Indicator: Income Inequality

The Gini Coefficient in 2017.



*Universal goal: All youth live in communities with equal access to economic resources & prosperity.*

## Data Source & Methodology

The Gini Coefficient is a measure of income inequality that can range from 0 to 1. The higher the Gini Coefficient (closer to 1) the more uneven the income distribution of a given community. Income inequality rates used for Place Matters come directly from the American Community Survey (ACS), *GINI Index of Income Inequality Table* (B19083).

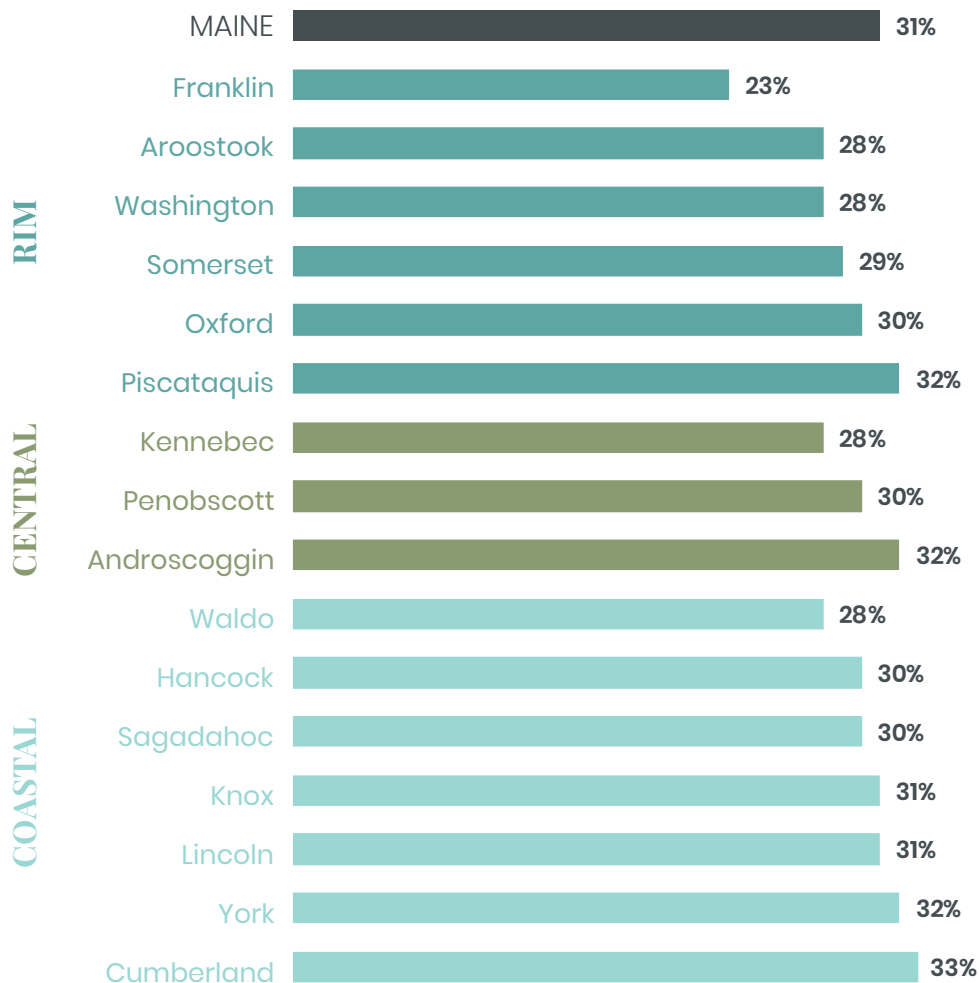


# Housing Affordability

Having access to quality, affordable housing has a profound impact on individual and family well-being, yielding better health outcomes,<sup>71,72</sup> greater economic opportunity and mobility,<sup>73</sup> and reduced vulnerability to justice involvement and crime victimization.<sup>74</sup> Households paying thirty percent or more of their income toward rent or mortgage are considered “burdened,” with limited ability to cope with unforeseen emergency expenses, keep up with the costs of maintaining healthy homes, or build wealth and economic stability.

## Indicator: Housing Cost Burden

Housing burden rates in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth have affordable & safe housing.

### Data Source & Methodology

To measure housing affordability in Maine, this study uses housing burden rates from the American Community Survey (ACS), *Selected Housing Characteristics Table (DP04)*. Rates are computed using the sum of three measures (*housing units with mortgage, housing unit without a mortgage, and occupied units paying rent*) as denominators and the sum of six measures (30.0 to 34.9 percent and 35.0 percent or more, for each of the three denominator measures) as numerators.

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Overall the housing burden declined in most counties in Maine as well as nationally in the past few years, though it is still higher than 2001 levels.<sup>75</sup>

In 2017, the average percentage of burdened households in Maine was 31%, meaning about a third of Maine households were burdened. At the county level, the majority of rates ranged from 28% (Aroostook, Kennebec, Waldo, and Washington) to 33% (Cumberland). Franklin, however, was an outlier, at 23%.

## What's missing?

Housing burden is a useful indicator, but it does not speak to conditions and accessibility. For young people, especially those who have experienced involvement in systems, permanent, independent housing is difficult to secure,<sup>76</sup> but there are very few Maine data sources related to this issue. There are likewise few Maine data sources related to the residential instability of those released from incarceration,<sup>77</sup> many of whom must rely on family and friends for post-release housing.<sup>78</sup>

## Resources

Permanent supportive housing is a well-known best practice for individuals with behavioral health issues and histories of homelessness,<sup>79</sup> and research has shown a positive relationship between specific housing models to facilitate reentry and reintegration outcomes.<sup>80</sup> Peer-led treatment housing such as Oxford House in Maryland and supportive housing such as found with the Returning Home Initiative in Ohio have been identified as effective models.<sup>81</sup>



# School Quality

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

From 2010 to 2018 graduation rates increased in most of Maine's counties. In 2018, the overall graduation rate in Maine was 87%. At the county level, the majority of rates ranged from 84% (Somerset) to 91% (Knox). Androscoggin, however, was an outlier, with a graduation rate of 74%. The 2009 Juvenile Justice Task Force set a goal to increase the high school graduation rate to 90% by 2016. In 2017, four counties achieved that goal—Aroostook, Cumberland, Knox, and York.

## What's missing?

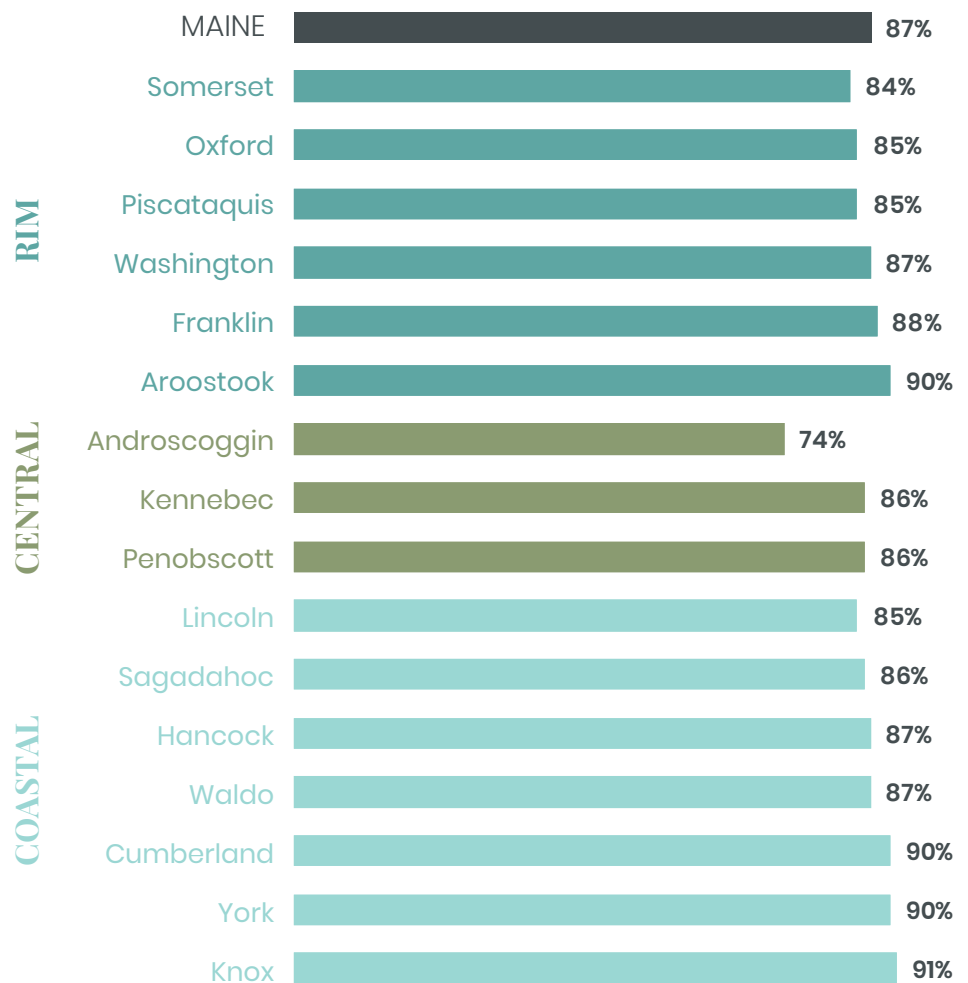
School quality is difficult to measure. While this report includes one available indicator, school quality should be described using an array of indicators. Additionally, these data are presented at the county level rather than at the district or school level, which masks the variability that exists between districts and schools. For example, Cumberland has a high rate, but rates differ markedly between municipalities within Cumberland. It is useful to consider other data, such as chronic absenteeism (missing more than ten percent of the school year); five- and six-year graduation rates; in-school and out-of-school suspension rates; rates of identification for educational supports (as well as availability and quality of those supports); and indicators of student happiness and sense of belonging, which are part of school climate surveys.<sup>87</sup>

According to educators, school quality refers to a variety of measures, including student and teacher engagement, access to advanced curriculum, readiness for college, and a safe school environment.<sup>82</sup> Students who are not supported to learn and grow experience worse health outcomes,<sup>83</sup> diminished economic mobility in adulthood,<sup>84</sup> increased crime and delinquency,<sup>85</sup> and vulnerability to justice system involvement.<sup>86</sup>

Four-year graduation rates provide a partial estimation of school quality because these rates indirectly reflect two previously referenced measures: student and teacher engagement and readiness for college.

## Indicator: 4-Year High School Graduation

The percent of freshmen who graduate in four years in 2018.



Universal goal: All youth graduate high school.

## Data Source & Methodology

Four-year graduation rates are calculated from counts found in the DOE's annual *Graduation Rates & Drop Out Data* spreadsheets. Each school was assigned to a county using the *Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey* (MIYHS) project lookup tool. The numerator is a total count of graduates. The denominator is a total count of the ninth graders from four years prior, accounting for the number of transfer students. This method aligns with how the DOE calculates graduation rates.

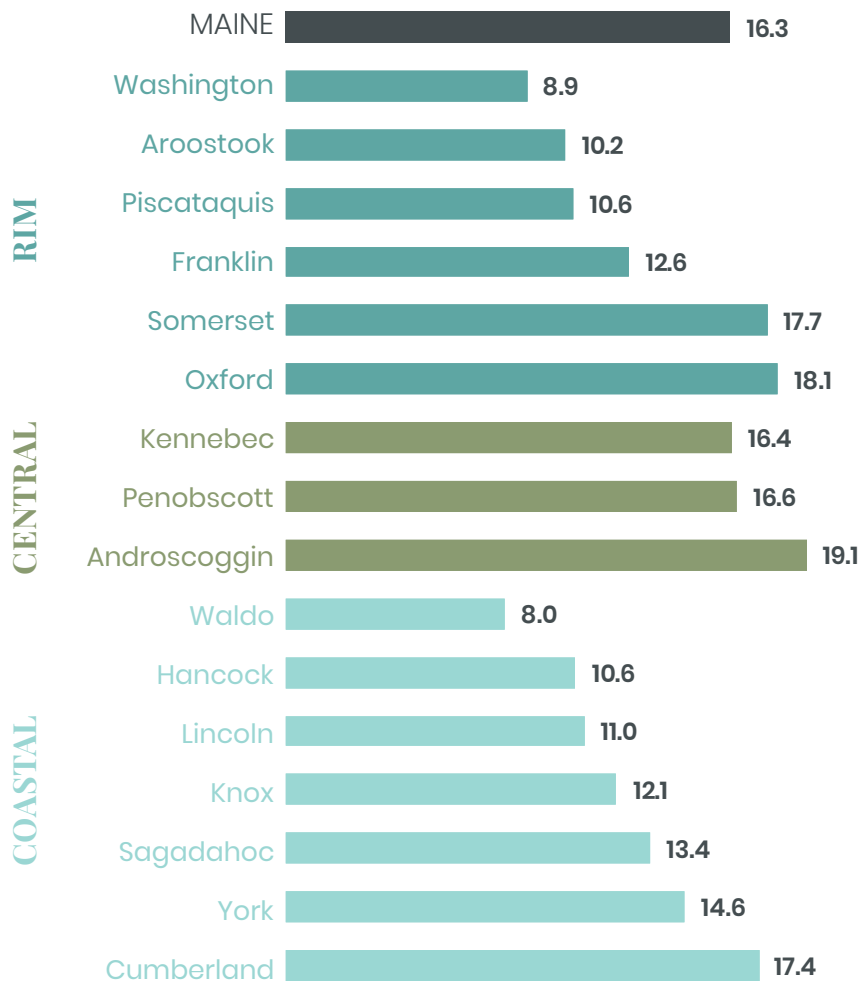


# Community Security

Exposure to crime, violence, and social disorder decreases perceived and actual security in homes and communities.<sup>88</sup> Not only does this vulnerability impact sense of belonging, it is also associated with negative health consequences,<sup>89,90</sup> mental and behavioral health problems,<sup>91,92</sup> decreased economic opportunity and mobility,<sup>93</sup> and increased vulnerability to victimization and delinquency.<sup>94</sup>

## Indicator: Violent Crime Rate

The number of reported violent crime offenses per 100,000 population in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth live in safe communities.

### Data Source & Methodology

These rates reflect violent offenses such as murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault per 1000 people and are taken from the annual *Crime in Maine* reports, produced annually by the Maine Department of Public Safety and available on their website.<sup>97</sup>

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Maine is one of the safest states in the nation, especially when it comes to violent crime. In 2017 the average violent crime rate in Maine was 16.3 crimes per 1000 person. At the county level, rates ranged from a low of 8.0 crimes per 1000 persons in Waldo County to a high of 19.1 crimes per 1000 persons in Androscoggin County. Maine's violent crime rate decreased between 2010 and 2017 from 26.1 violent crimes per 1000 persons to 16.3 violent crimes per 1000 persons.

### What's missing?

Another resource for measuring community security is the Maine Crime Victimization Report. These data come from surveys completed by community members about victimization that may or may not have been reported to law enforcement.<sup>95</sup> Additionally, examining crime rates by neighborhood or even by social network<sup>96</sup> may shed more light on the issue of community security.





# Social Belonging

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

In 2017, more than half of Maine youth surveyed (57%) said they felt like they mattered to their communities, but this rate varied by county, ranging from a low of 47% in Piscataquis to a high of 62% in Cumberland. It likewise varied by attribute such as gender, transgender identity, and sexual orientation. Thus, while 61% of male-identifying youth felt like they mattered to their communities, only 53% of female-identifying youth felt they did. While 61% of heterosexual youth felt like they mattered to their communities, only 43% of gay/lesbian youth and 34% of bisexual youth felt they did.

Maine data matches national trends. Overall, students in the United States have been found to have a lower sense of belonging than other countries.<sup>105</sup>

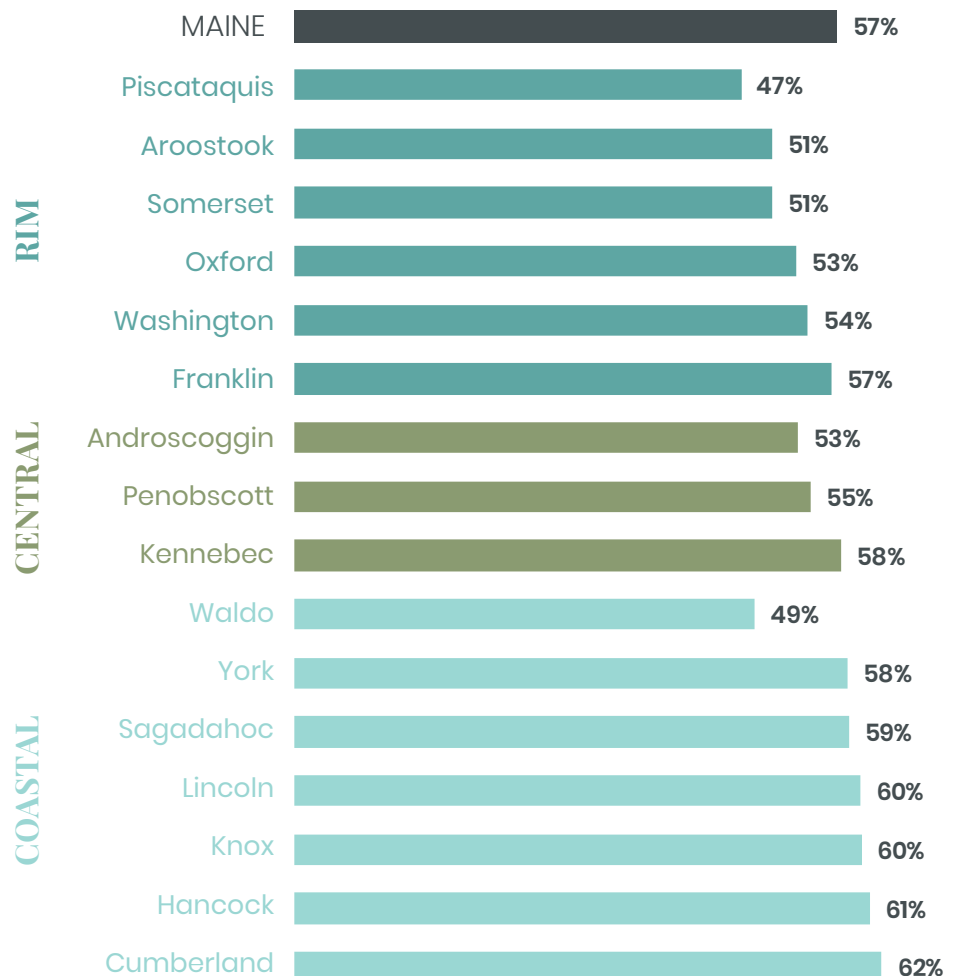
## What's missing?

For youth in particular, belonging is most often measured as it relates to feelings of connection with school.<sup>106</sup> General sense of belonging (SOB) is measured with self-report survey instruments that focus on either psychological experiences or antecedents of belonging.<sup>107</sup> The MIYHS is such a self-report survey instrument. In 2017 it was administered in 105 schools to over 61,000 students.

Youth sense of belonging entails having access to full participation in community life, being respected at a basic human level, and feeling “part of” the community such that one can co-create that community and rely on the community for support.<sup>98</sup> Communities need youth to feel a sense of belonging,<sup>99,100</sup> because feelings of not belonging can translate into negative outcomes for health<sup>101</sup> and mental health,<sup>102,103</sup> disengagement from education, employment and civic life; and engagement in activities that harm the community.<sup>104</sup>

## Indicator: Youth perception that they matter in their community

Answers of agree or strongly agree from the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth have meaningful connections in their community.

## Data Source & Methodology

The indicator for belonging comes directly from the MIYHS,<sup>108</sup> which is collected biannually and is summarized at the county level. The question selected was: “Do you agree or disagree that in your community you feel like you matter to people?” Answers of *agree* or *strongly agree* were counted as yes responses.



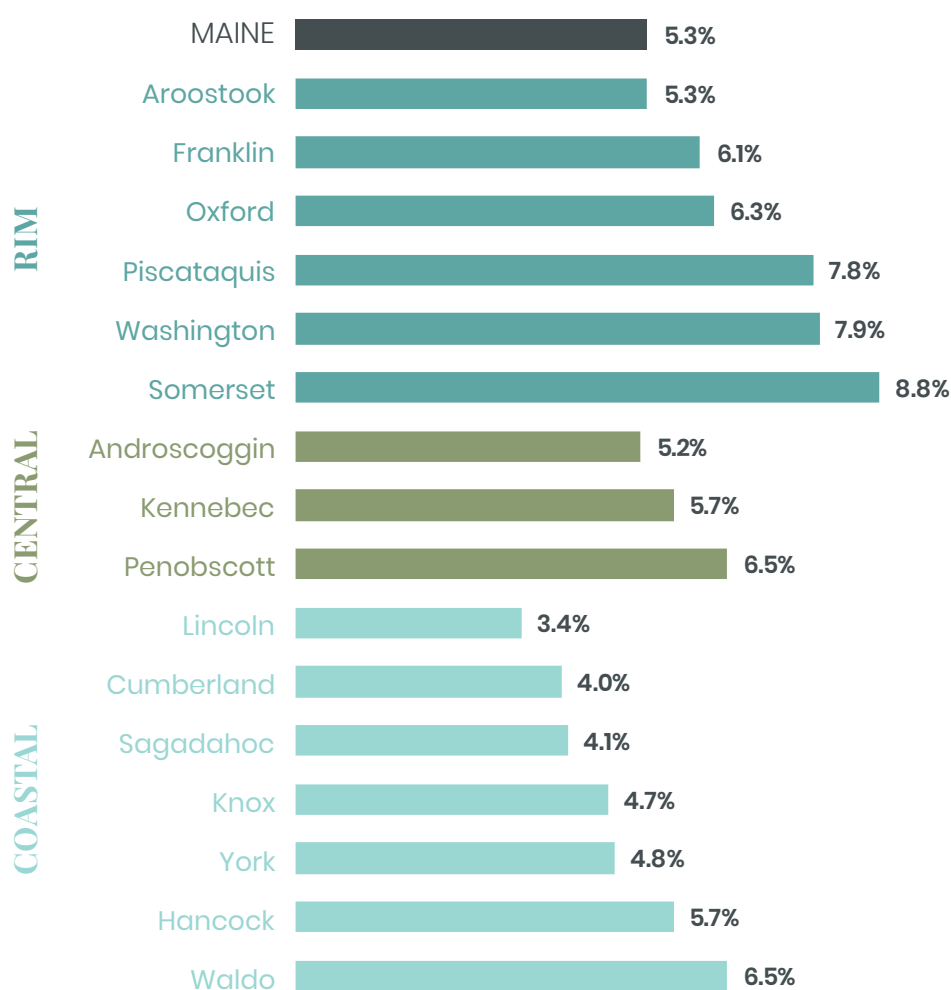


# Area Economic Growth

Area economic growth and opportunity is a crucial component of community well-being. The ability of community members to obtain work and a livable wage has great bearing on the financial security of individuals and families,<sup>109</sup> which is also associated with better health outcomes.<sup>110</sup> In addition to supporting better health and financial well-being, communities where people have job opportunities that allow them to provide for themselves and their families are less vulnerable to crime.<sup>111</sup>

## Indicator: Unemployment Rate

Percentage of the civilian labor force that is unemployed in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth live in communities with economic opportunities.

### Data Source & Methodology

The rates reported here are the percentage of the civilian labor force that is unemployed, taken directly from the American Community Survey (ACS), Selected Economic Characteristics Table (DP03).

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Unemployment declined in Maine between 2014 and 2017, and is currently below the national average.<sup>112</sup> In 2017, the unemployment rate in Maine was 5%, but at the county level the average ranged from a low of 3% in Lincoln County to a high of 9% in Somerset County. The rate for Maine has remained steadily low since 2017, hovering around 3%.<sup>113</sup>

## What's missing?

Unemployment rates do not tell a complete story about economic opportunity or well-being in communities. Mainers who are underemployed, who have ceased looking for work, and those who have work that is not sufficient to meet their financial needs or provide them with health benefits are not represented in these data. Additional ways to measure this determinant are to consider wage growth by income level and underemployment figures, such as the Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR).

## Resource

A useful Maine resource is the Maine Development Foundation's Making Maine Work<sup>114</sup> series of reports, which provide information and recommendations related to building Maine's workforce.



# Human Capital

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

The educational attainment rate in Maine rose from 27% in 2010 to 30% in 2017. At the county level, the majority of rates ranged from a low of 17% (Somerset) to a high of 35% (Sagadahoc). Cumberland, however, was an outlier, at 45%. This puts Maine on par with the national average, but still below every other state in New England.

## What's missing?

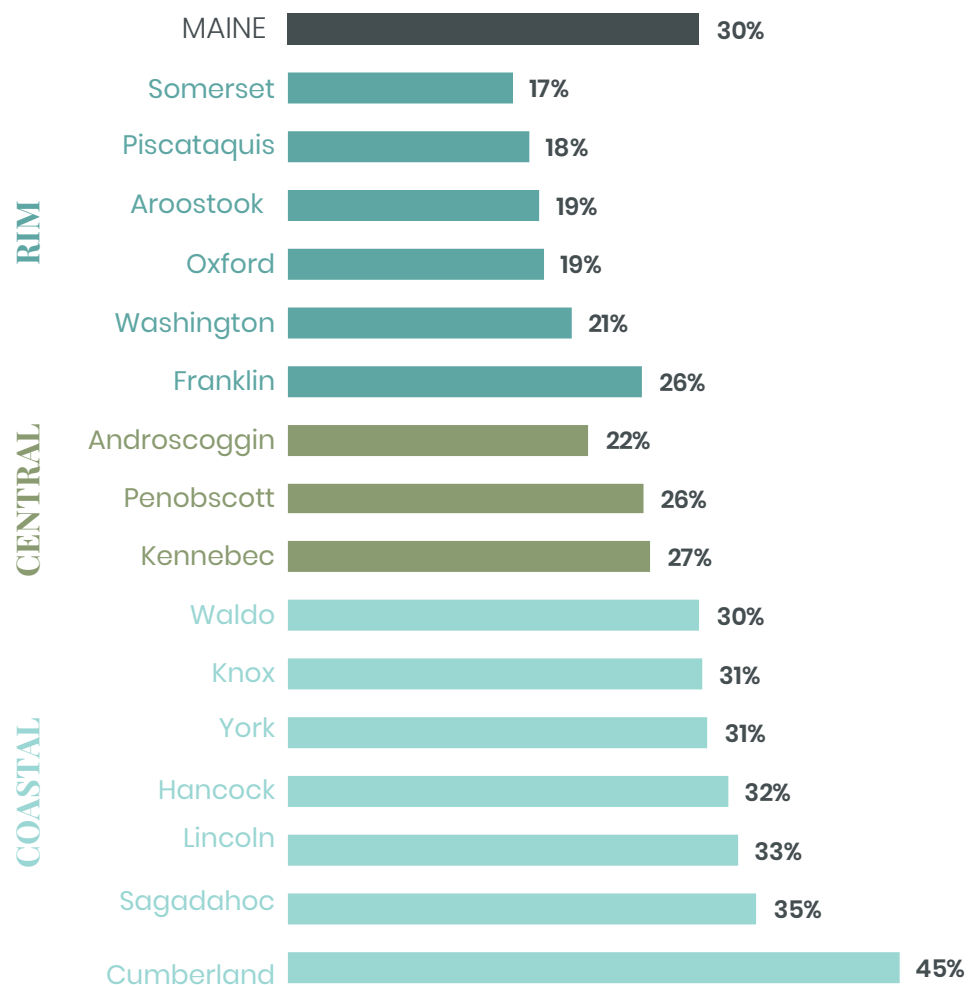
These data do not tell a complete story about the capacity of the workforce to grow and sustain a vibrant economy. To complement this indicator of human capital, communities could also consider the number of trade certifications or the number of individuals graduating from trade and technical schools.

Human capital can be described as the capabilities and understanding that exist in a community that can be used in a productive way. A community's education level is a major component of human capital.<sup>115</sup>

Maine's economic landscape requires a workforce with both higher education and vocational skills. Research has shown that adults with bachelor's degrees are beneficial to communities.<sup>116</sup> Researchers posit that by next year, 65% of jobs nationally will require postsecondary credentials.<sup>117</sup> Projections in Maine are more modest, predicting around 40% of jobs will require postsecondary credentials.<sup>118</sup>

## Indicator: Educational Attainment

The percent of the population with a BA or higher in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth live in communities that help to support career or college pathways.

## Data Source & Methodology

This measure was taken directly from the American Community Survey (ACS), *Educational Attainment Table (S1501) Population 25 years and over: Percent bachelor's degree or higher*.



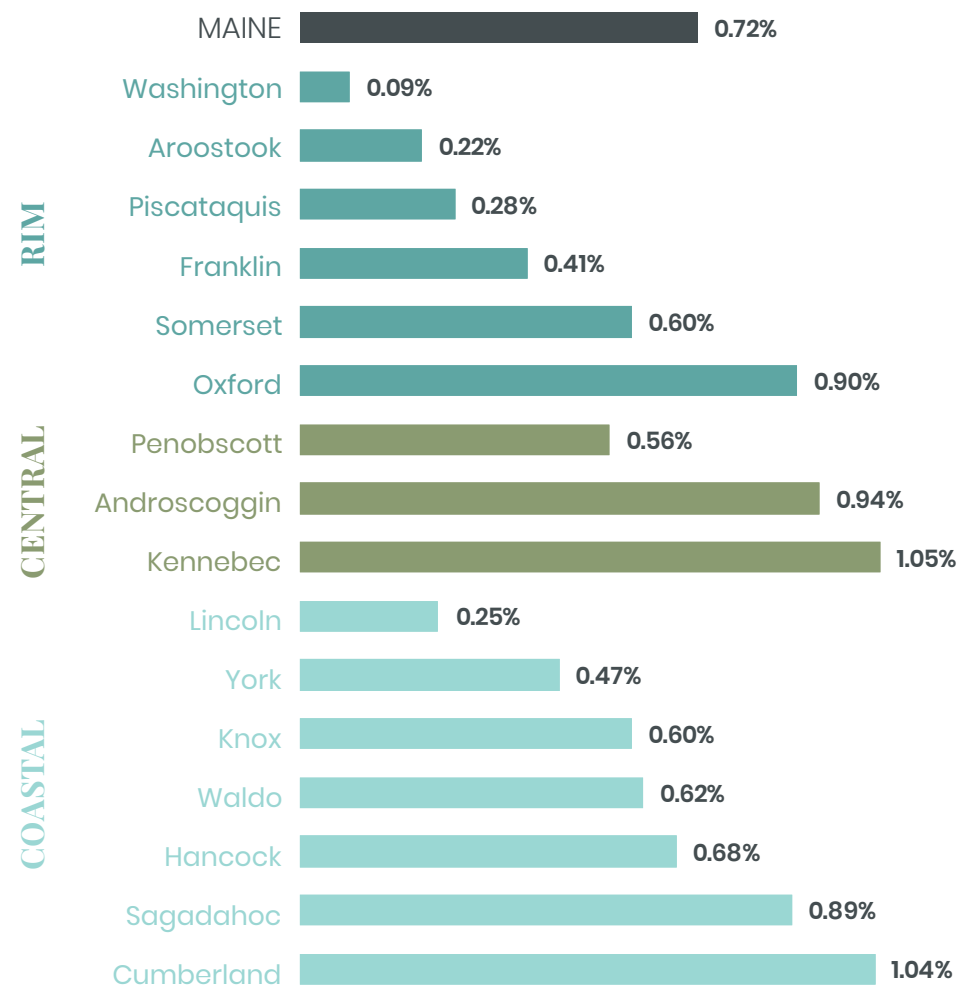
# Youth Homelessness

Tracking youth homelessness is challenging. Homeless youth are uniquely hidden, as there is no one system or place where they show up. Adding further challenge, definitions of homelessness and definitions of youth vary.

Though obtaining data on homelessness is difficult, including any data that are available is critical. It is known nationally that there is significant overlap between youth experiencing homelessness and the justice system,<sup>119</sup> as well as with the child welfare system,<sup>120</sup> and disproportionality in how homelessness impacts African Americans.<sup>121</sup>

## Indicator: Student Homelessness

The percent of student population who report homelessness in 2018.



Universal goal: All youth have safe and stable housing.

### Data Source & Methodology

Youth homelessness rates were computed using summary counts for numerators and denominators, provided by the Maine Department of Education (DOE). Data collected by schools in compliance with the McKinney-Vento Act<sup>126</sup> were chosen because they exist for all school districts, and the McKinney-Vento definition is the most inclusive. Data for some counties and years were redacted due to small counts. Two missing 2018 data points were imputed using data from 2015 to 2017.

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Homelessness increased in Maine between 2015 and 2018, but at the county level there was variability. In several counties—Franklin, Knox, Lincoln, and most notably, Piscataquis—there were decreases. In 2018, the average rate of homelessness in Maine was 0.72%, but county rates ranged from a low of 0.09% in Washington to a high of 1.05% in Kennebec. Cumberland County had the highest number (317) in 2018, more than a quarter of all Maine's homeless youth.

## What's missing?

These data come from schools. Homeless youth often disengage from school, so these rates are likely an undercount, especially since these data do not include youth younger than 24 who have aged out of school. These limitations are not unique; most homeless youth counts are low. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides homeless pointintime (PIT) counts, which are also generally low counts due to their timing at the end of January.<sup>122</sup>

## Resources

**A Way Home America** is a national initiative that has a "100 Day Challenge" project that seeks to prevent and end homelessness in communities across the country.<sup>123</sup> Franklin County participated in this initiative in 2017, and homelessness numbers dropped in that county between 2017 and 2018.<sup>124</sup> Recently, Maine Housing was the recipient of a Housing and Urban Development grant to create a coordinated community response to youth homelessness, with a focus on *rural services*.<sup>125</sup>



# Youth Justice Involvement

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

In 2017 there were 2,646 referrals to the youth justice system in Maine, or 4.3 referrals for every 100 youth. The differences in referral rates among counties suggest that some counties have practices or assets that serve as protective factors for youth who are at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system. At the county level, the referral rate ranged from 3.1 referrals per 100 youth in Oxford County to 5.9 in Hancock County. While the rate of referrals decreased by 51% between 2013 and 2017, this was not true for Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, or Washington Counties.

## What's Missing?

Not reflected in these data are the arrests of young adults (18-24), which are processed through Maine's adult criminal justice system.

These data represent opportunities to divert young people from the youth justice system. Identifying and replicating the practices and assets that may be contributing to lower rates in certain counties is an important next step.

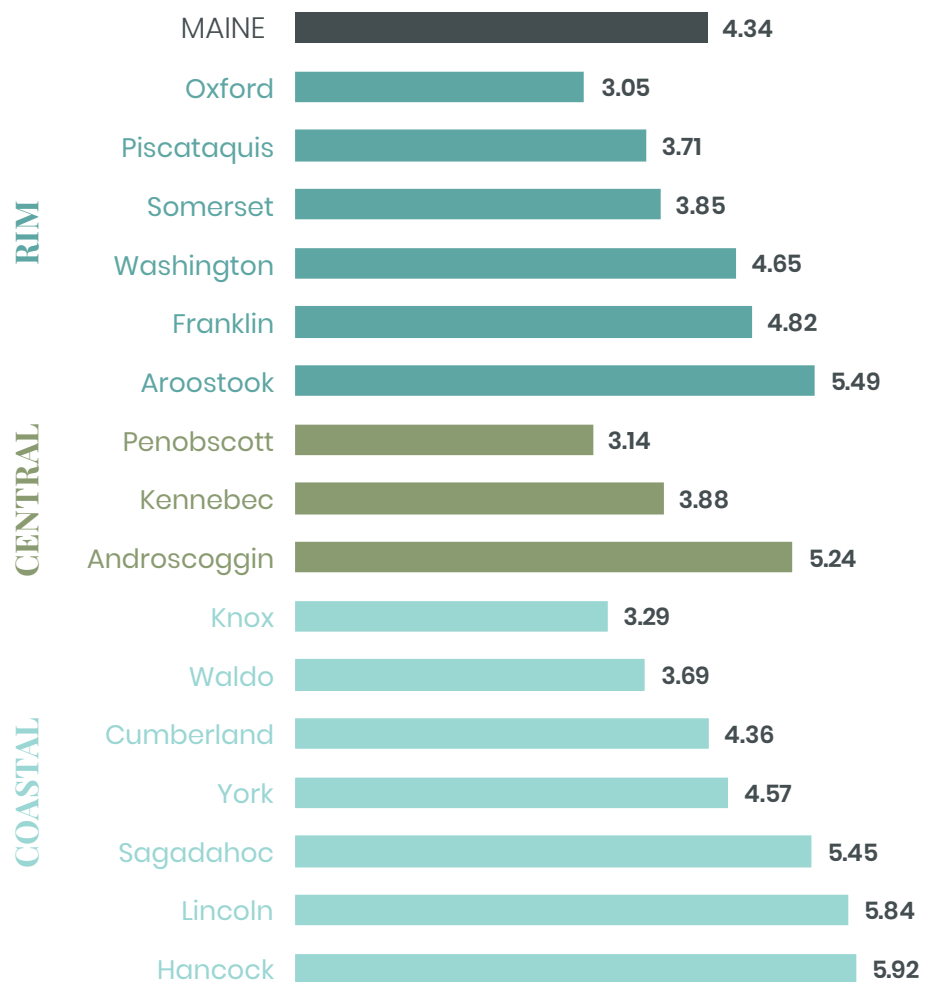
## Resource

There are multiple initiatives dealing with youth justice system involvement. Most recently, the **Juvenile Justice System Assessment and Reinvestment Task Force** was formed, comprising a large coalition of stakeholders. This Task Force is focused on studying how the state of Maine can develop a comprehensive, coordinated continuum of care for youth in the youth justice system and at risk of juvenile justice system involvement.<sup>190</sup>

Youth justice involvement can be understood as an outcome of adverse community environments, as well as determinant of a community's well-being in terms of community members' health, economic prosperity, and public safety.<sup>127</sup> National research predicts that by the age of 23, approximately 30% of adults will have experienced arrest.<sup>128</sup> This has major implications for labor markets, housing, and the level of services required in the state, especially since young people who have experienced arrest face obstacles finding employment and housing.<sup>129</sup>

## Indicator: DOC Referrals

Rate per 100 of population age 14-24 referred to corrections in 2017.



*Universal Goal: All justice-involved youth have a fair, equitable, and responsive treatment that contributes to positive youth outcomes.*

## Data Source & Methodology

Referral rates were computed using records provided by the Maine Department of Corrections. Since these records include every referral made to a Juvenile Community Corrections Officer, individual youth may appear more than once. Only records for youth ages 14 to 17 were used in this analysis. The denominators used were obtained from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) *Easy Access to Juvenile Populations* website.

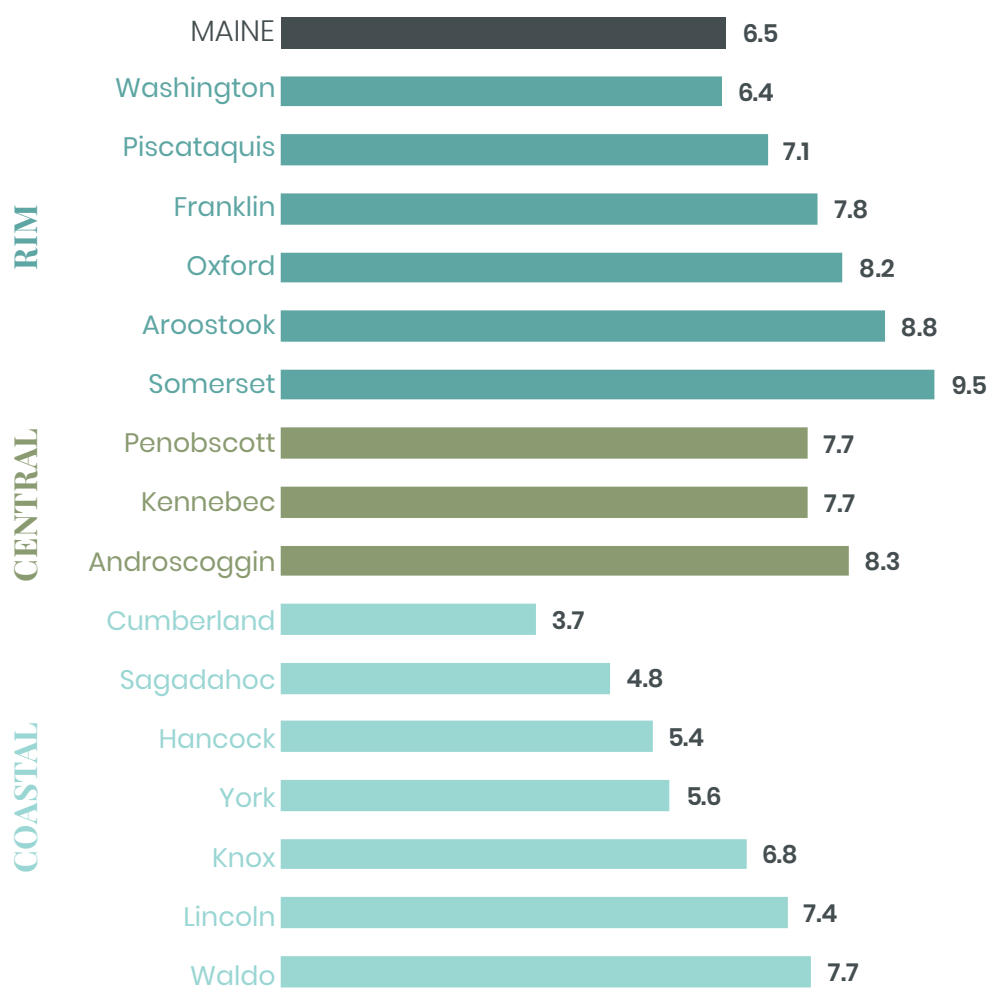


# Child Welfare System Involvement

Similar to juvenile justice involvement, involvement in the child welfare system is both an outcome of adverse community environments and a determinant of community well-being. Involvement in the child welfare system is a risk factor for health problems,<sup>131</sup> poor educational outcomes,<sup>132</sup> homelessness,<sup>133</sup> juvenile and adult justice system involvement,<sup>134</sup> and diminished lifetime earnings.<sup>135</sup>

## Indicator: Child Protection Report Records

Rate per 100 of appropriate reports to child protective services in 2018.



Universal goal: All youth referred to the child welfare system experience safety, permanency and well-being.

### Data Source & Methodology

Rates were computed using Maine DHHS call records which include all children ages 0 to 17 represented by an appropriate report. A call for a single child may result in multiple records if multiple children reside in the home, and individual children may appear more than once. The numerators were calculated using the average number of calls and the denominators were obtained from the OJJDP's Easy Access to Juvenile Populations website.

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

From 2016 to 2018, there were an average of 6.5 reports for every 100 Maine youth. This rate reflects approximately 16,000 children per year. Similar to youth justice involvement, the differences in rates among counties suggests that some counties have practices or assets that serve as protective factors for youth who are at risk of involvement with the child welfare system. At the county level, the rate ranged from a low of 3.7 in Cumberland to a high of 9.5 in Somerset.

## What's missing?

These data do not reflect that Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is in the midst of rapid administrative changes. A report assessing Children's Behavioral Health Services (Office of Child and Family Services) was completed in December of 2018 and made multiple policy and practice recommendations.<sup>136</sup> Recently, DHHS leadership and staff released a vision document that narrowed many of these recommendations down to thirteen vision strategies.<sup>137</sup>

## Resource

**The Children's Cabinet** was reinstated by Governor Mills in May of 2019 and will be focusing efforts on improving access to community-based services and programming for older youth at risk of involvement in the youth justice or child welfare systems as one of its two major goals. This effort may uncover more that can be done to mitigate the negative impacts that system involvement, including child welfare system involvement, can have on young people.



# Mental & Behavioral Health Care

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Individualized Education Plans (IEP) and 504 plans represent educational modifications and specialized learning supports at school. In 2018, there were 21.3 IEP and 504 plans for every 100 Maine youth. This rate increased from the 2015 rate of 19.4. IEP and 504 plans also varied across the state. In 2018, the highest rate of IEP and 504 plans was in Lincoln County at 24.8 and the lowest was in Piscataquis and Franklin Counties at 19.5.

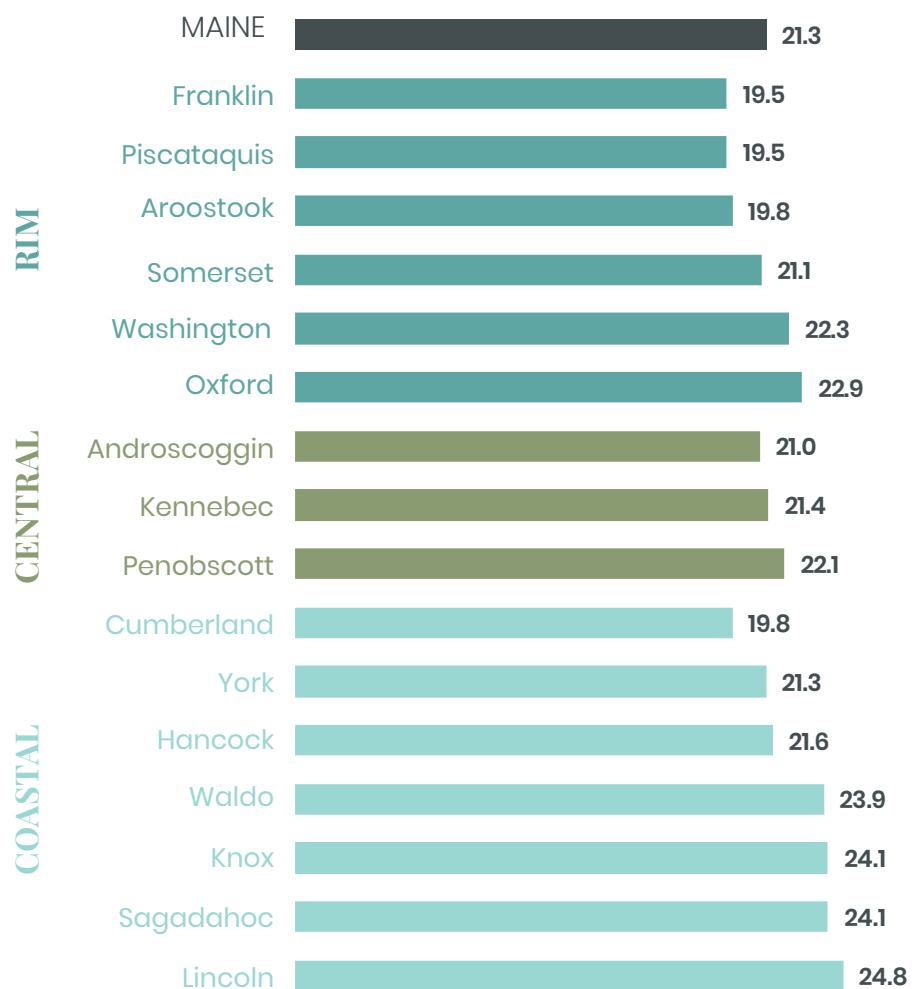
## What's missing?

IEP, 504, and TCM referral data provide insight into how many young people are entering the mental and behavioral health care systems. However, what this data may or may not indicate about a community is extremely complex.<sup>138,139</sup> A subset of the youth represented by these numbers may have no emotional or behavioral needs. Youth with IEP's may be visually impaired, deaf, may have learning disabilities, or have some other category of eligibility.<sup>140</sup> Youth with 504 plans may have those plans to address diabetes, asthma, peanut allergies, or a host of other challenges unrelated to behavioral health.<sup>141</sup>

The goal for communities isn't necessarily a reduction or increase in any of these numbers but to achieve fuller understanding about how young people are identified for services, which young people are identified and why, how restrictive the settings are where programming is taking place, and the appropriateness and efficacy of interventions.

## Indicator: Individualized Education Program (IEP) and 504 plans

Percent of student population with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a 504 plan in 2018.



### Data Source & Methodology

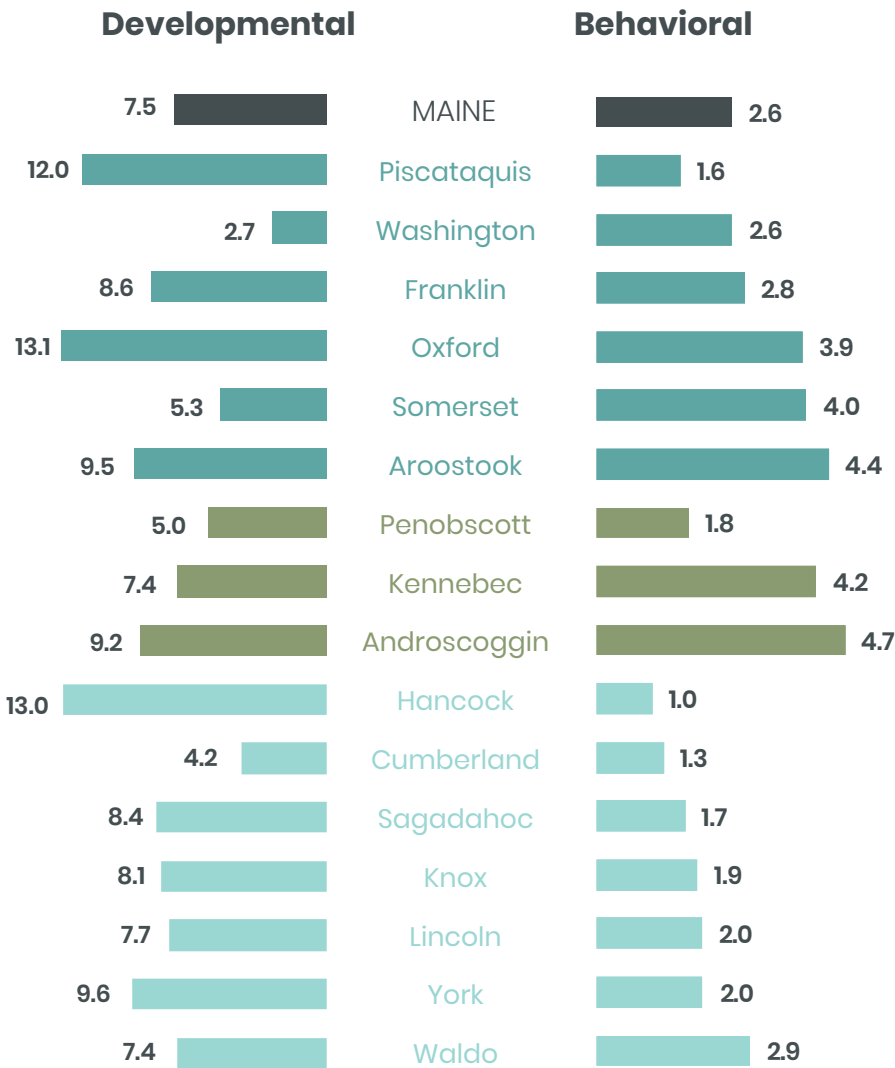
IEP/504 rates were computed using summary counts provided by the Maine Department of Education (DOE). Counts include a sum of IEPs and 504s. The denominators used in these rates were school population counts, obtained from DOE's website.



Research has consistently demonstrated the importance of early community-level responses to youth with emerging emotional, behavioral, and developmental challenges.<sup>142</sup> Unaddressed community behavioral health needs contribute to pipelines into other systems of care that may undermine permanency and well-being.<sup>143,144</sup>

## Indicator: Targeted Case Management (TCM) Developmental and Behavioral Services

Percent of youth who receive targeted case management services in a community as the result of a confirmed diagnosis in 2017.



Universal goal: All youth with emotional and behavioral challenges have access to supports they need to thrive.

### Data Source & Methodology

Rates were computed using records provided by the Maine DHHS. Records include all children ages 0 to 17 residing in Maine who received TCM services. Individual children may appear more than once in these data, both within a single year and within multiple years. The denominators used in these rates were obtained from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s Easy Access to Juvenile Populations website and include youth ages 0 to 17 years of age.

## WHAT’S THE STORY HERE?

TCM services are important due to their function as a gatekeeper to other behavioral health services. In 2017 there were 2.6 TCM behavioral health services for every 100 Maine youth and 0.7 TCM developmental services for every 100 youth. Both of these rates decreased between 2015 and 2017. The 2017 rates represent a total of 6,456 behavioral services and 1,901 developmental services.

### Resources

Maine’s National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) chapter released a report in 2018 that is a useful resource and makes several data-informed recommendations for mental health system reform.<sup>145</sup> The Maine Parent Federation also provides a variety of resources organized into a “community services map” for families looking for support with disabilities or special health care needs.<sup>146</sup>



# School Pushout

## WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?

Statewide, there were over 9,000 suspensions in 2017, or 5.2 suspensions for every 100 youth. The suspension rate increased between 2015 and 2017. At the county level, these rates varied from 2.0 in Washington to 14.5 in Androscoggin. From 2015 to 2017, the rate increased from 4.0 to 5.0 suspensions for every 100 youth, and while the change in rate seems small it was statistically significant, accounting for more than 2,000 “extra” suspensions in 2017.

While suspensions increased statewide, this was not the case in three counties' where rates remained stable (Sagadahoc, Waldo, and York) and three counties where rates decreased (Aroostook, Lincoln, and Penobscot).

## What's missing?

These data do not reflect the recent attention paid to Maine suspension rates. For example, a 2017 report commissioned by the Maine Legislature recommended limiting suspension and expulsion for early education, and legislation was signed into law in 2019.<sup>152</sup> Analysis of attendance records could aid in further understanding school disengagement for young people who have not been suspended.

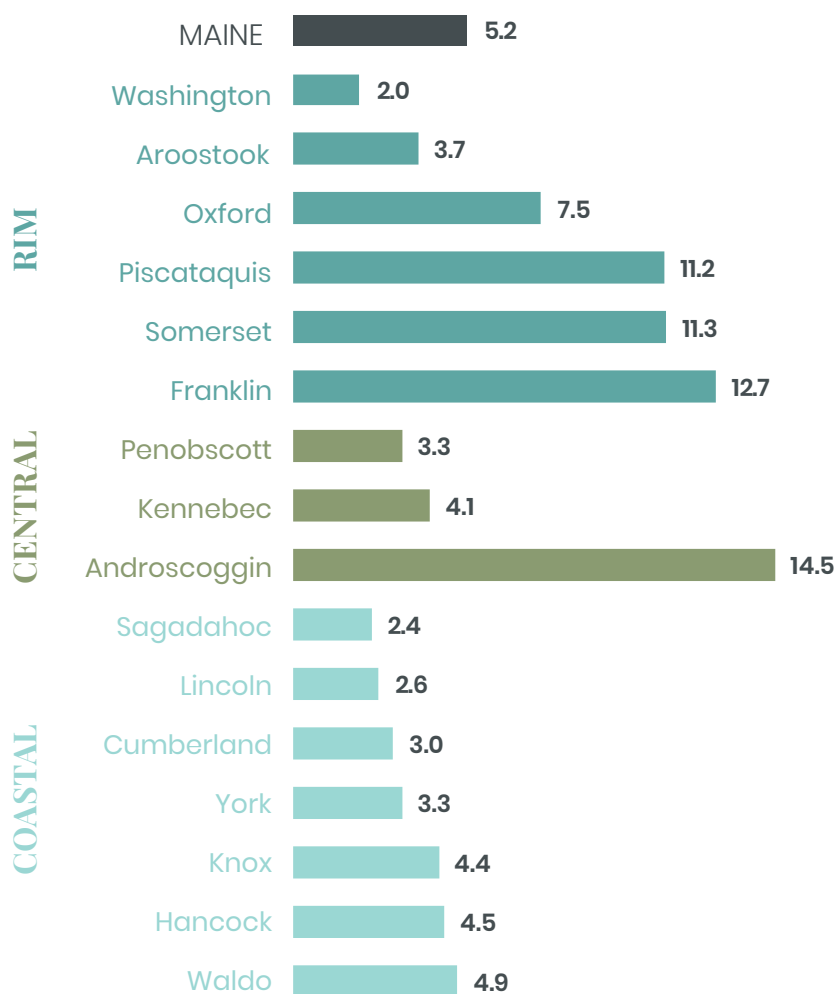
## Resource

**Pine Tree Legal Assistance,** Disability Rights Maine, and Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic are collaborating to increase the number of advocates for young people disengaged from and pushed out of school. A training conference is planned for November of 2019 with a manual also in the works.

In-school and out-of-school suspensions are a form of exclusionary school discipline and are an early indicator of educational push-out. Exclusionary school discipline has been linked to risky behavioral pathways<sup>147</sup> and negative educational outcomes for individuals.<sup>148,149</sup> Suspension contributes to a loss of instructional time which can create disparities in learning and also impacts students' feelings of belonging.<sup>150</sup> Research has shown that students who are suspended fare poorly in terms of attendance, course completion, standardized test scores, and graduation compared to students with similar traits who were not suspended.<sup>151</sup>

## Indicator: Suspensions

Rate of suspensions for every 100 students in 2017.



*Universal goal: All youth experience positive and restorative disciplinary practices that facilitate academic success in the least restrictive environment.*

## Data Source & Methodology

These rates were computed using summary counts provided by the Maine Department of Education (DOE). Counts include both in-school and out-of-school suspensions. The denominators used in these rates were school population counts, obtained from DOE's website.



## DATA BY COUNTY

# County Snapshots

The following pages contain data from all indicators shared in the preceding snapshots, arranged by county. These snapshots are intended to aid communities, organizations, and systems in taking the next step of working toward shared goals and performance measures. A few priority areas or areas of opportunity are highlighted, as well as areas of strength for each county. These are not inclusive of all the areas of opportunity or strength for each county, but rather provided as suggestions for stakeholders interested in engaging in further analysis and working towards shared results.

Indicators that are unfavorable in comparison to the state are emphasized in the following tables, with the exception of the three indicators chosen for the mental and behavioral health care system involvement outcome.

Communities, organizations, and systems can use these snapshots in a number of ways including as a jumping off point for collaborative work or as a baseline for new initiatives. One example of how these data are already being used comes from Midcoast Maine, where the Restorative Justice Project of Maine (RJPM) is using these data as part of a new initiative to plan and implement a model of Community Justice Centers across Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and Waldo counties. RJPM has won a \$920K grant from the Federal Office of Justice Programs for this work, the goal of which is to create a new approach to rural crime prevention and community building.

SNAPSHOT

# Androscoggin County

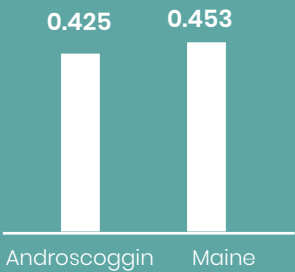
Androscoggin County ranked unfavorably on seven out of nine determinant indicators and four out of seven outcome indicators in comparison to the state. Androscoggin had the poorest rates across all counties for high school graduation (74%), suspensions (14%), and crime (19.1 crimes per 1000 persons). However, in 2017, Androscoggin had one of the lowest rates of income inequality in the state with a Gini coefficient of .43, as well as lower unemployment than most of the state (5.2%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



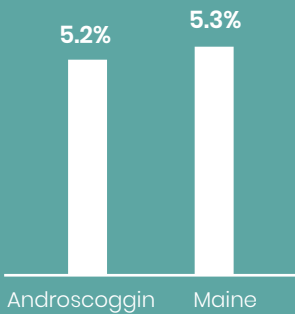
### Economic Inclusion

2017 GINI COEFFICIENT



### Area Economic Growth

2017 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

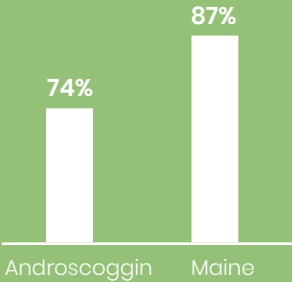


## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



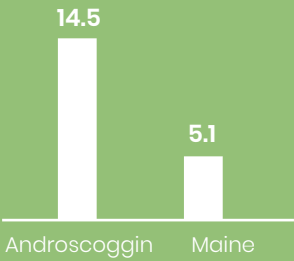
### School Quality

2017 ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE



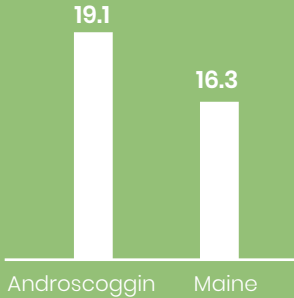
### Educational Pushout

2017 SUSPENSION RATE



### Community Security

2017 VIOLENT CRIME RATE



## ANDROSCOGGIN & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	COUNTY RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$49,538	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	32%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	5.2%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	9.5%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.425	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	74%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	19.1	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	53.2%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	22%	30%

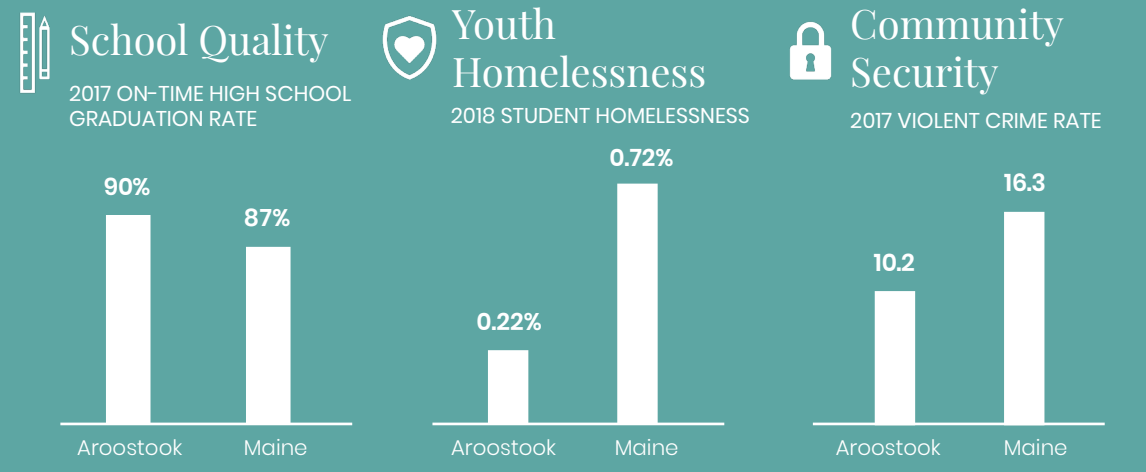
Outcome	Indicator	COUNTY		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	2,441	14.5	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	3,561	21.0	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	215	9.2	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	1,109	4.73	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	160	0.94%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	268	5.24	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	1,938	8.3	6.5

SNAPSHOT

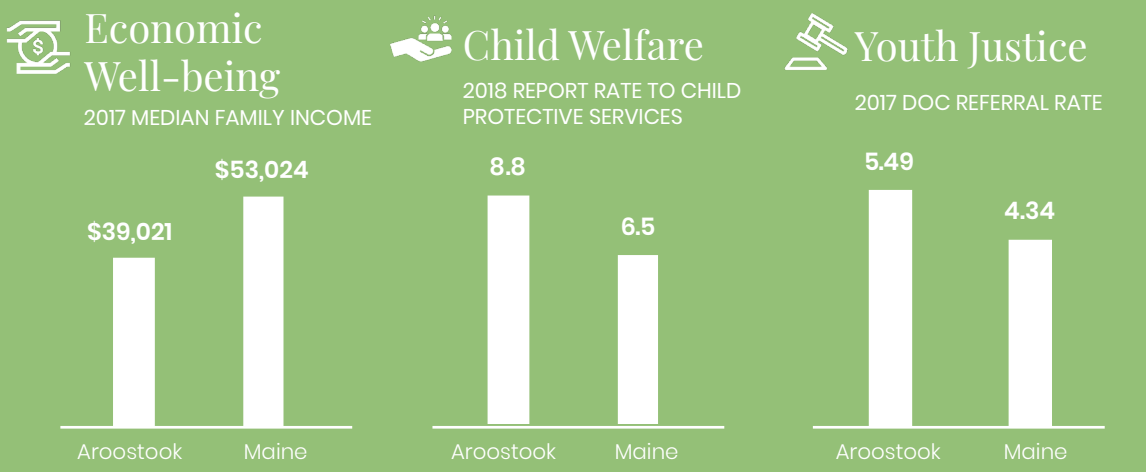
# Aroostook County

Aroostook County had the second lowest household income in 2017 (\$39,021) and one of the highest rates of reports to the child welfare system in the state (8.8 reports per 100 youth). It is also one of six counties where the youth justice referral rate did not decline between 2013 and 2017, making it the third highest county for referrals (5.49 referrals per 100 youth). On the plus side, Aroostook is one of four counties to achieve the goal set by the 2009 task force of a 90% high school graduation rate, and both crime (19.1 incidents per 100 people) and homelessness (.94%) are lower than the majority of the state.

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



## AROOSTOOK & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	AROOSTOOK RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$39,021	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	28%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	5.3%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	11.8%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.456	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	90%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	10.2	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	50.5%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	19%	30%

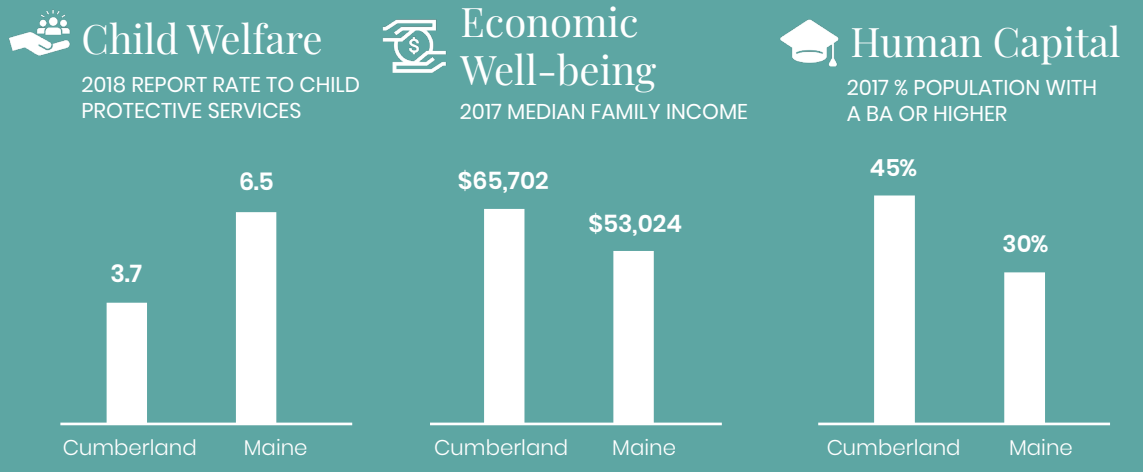
Outcome	Indicator	AROOSTOOK		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	350	3.7	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,853	19.8	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	118	9.5	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	548	4.42	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	21	0.22%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	168	5.49	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	1,098	8.8	6.5

SNAPSHOT

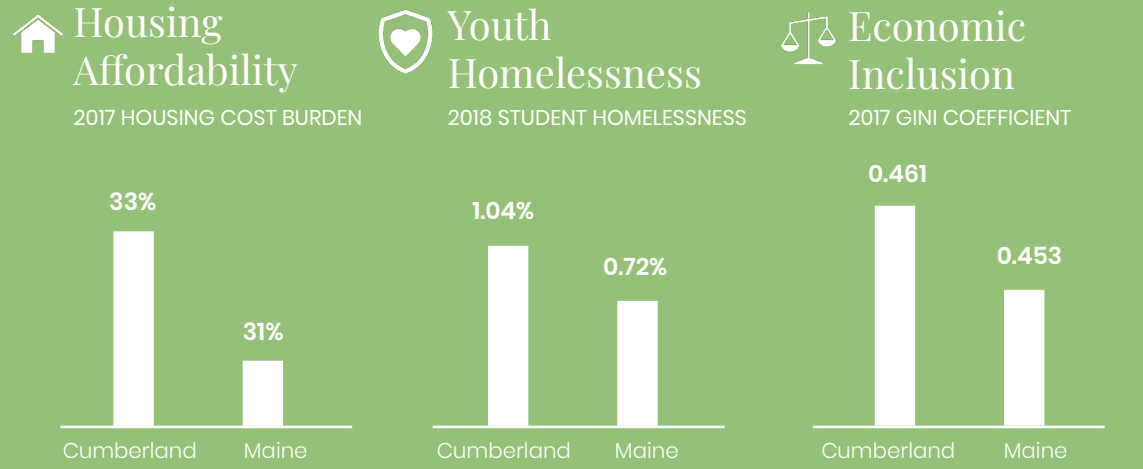
# Cumberland County

Housing cost burden was highest in Cumberland County in 2017 (33%), and perhaps related to this, Cumberland had the second highest rate of homeless youth (1.0 youth per 1000) in 2018. Cumberland also had one of the highest rates of income inequality with a Gini coefficient of .46. On the positive side, Cumberland had the lowest rate of reports to DHHS in 2018 (3.7 per 100 young people), the highest level of income (\$65,702) in 2017, the highest rate of young people who reported feeling they matter to their community (62%) in 2017, and had the highest rate (45%) of educational attainment in the state in 2017.

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



## CUMBERLAND & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	CUMBERLAND RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$65,702	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	33%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	4.0%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	6.8%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.461	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	90%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	17.4	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	62.0%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	45%	30%

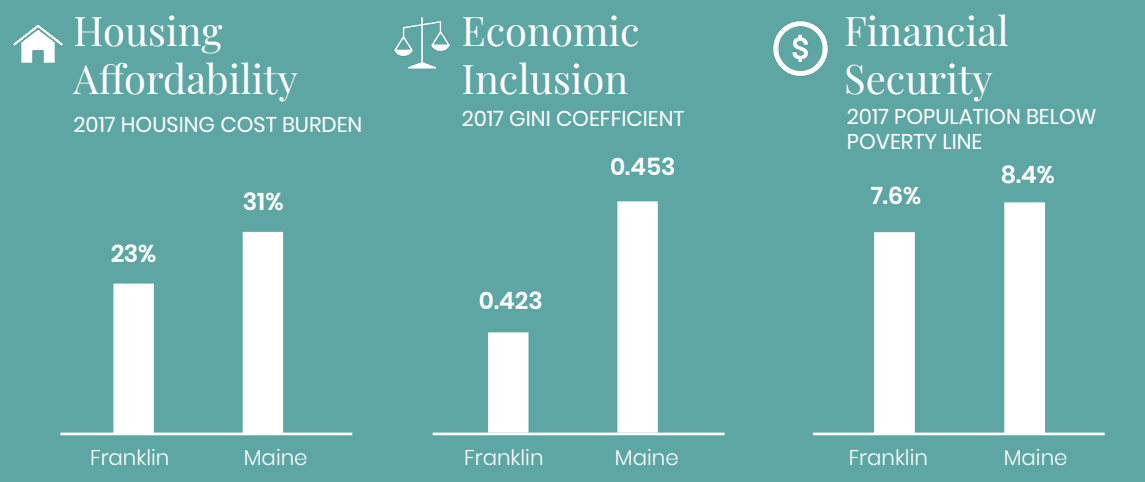
Outcome	Indicator	CUMBERLAND		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	1,158	3.0	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	7,800	19.8	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	233	4.2	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	704	1.27	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	408	1.04%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	582	4.36	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	2,060	3.7	6.5

SNAPSHOT

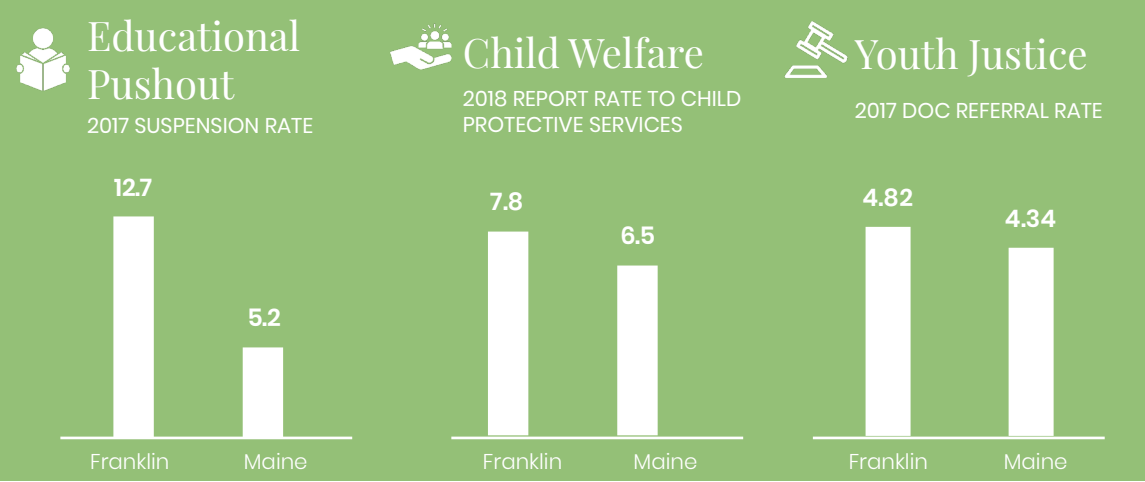
# Franklin County

Franklin County had the second highest suspension rate in the state in 2017 (12.7 suspensions per 100 youth). It was also one of six counties that did not reduce its youth justice referral rate between 2013 and 2017, causing it to slip from the second-best county for referrals to 7th out of 16. Also, Franklin’s rate of reports to DHHS was higher than most counties in Maine in 2018 (7.8 reports per 100 youth). On the positive side, Franklin had the lowest rate of housing cost burden for the state (23%) and the second lowest rate of income inequality with a Gini coefficient of .42. It also had the largest decrease in poverty between 2010 and 2017 (from 10.2% to 7.6%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH





## FRANKLIN & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	FRANKLIN RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$45,541	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	23%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	6.1%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	7.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.423	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	88%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	12.6	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	56.7%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	26%	30%

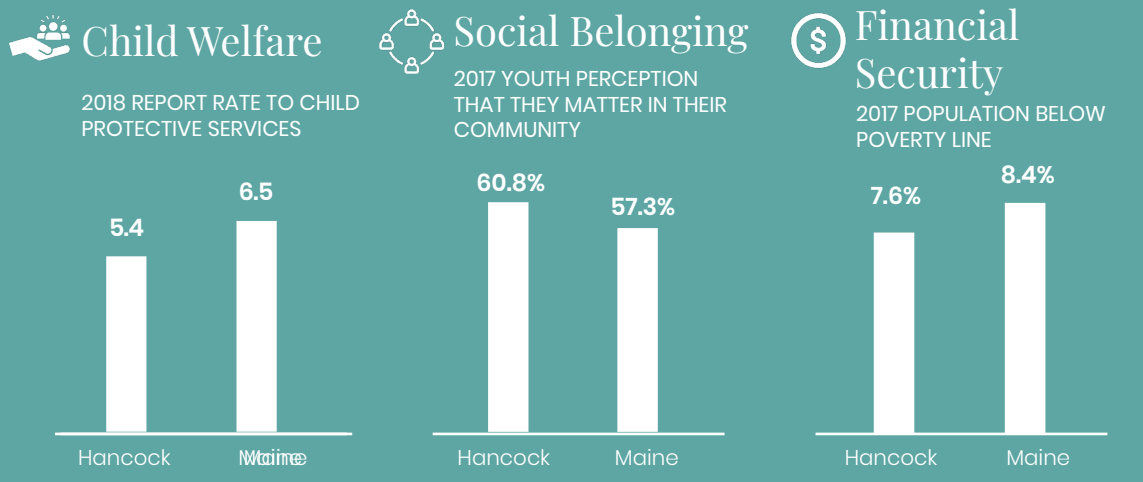
Outcome	Indicator	FRANKLIN		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	498	12.7	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	769	19.5	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	46	8.6	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	150	2.82	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	16	0.41%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	61	4.82	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	420	7.8	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Hancock County

In 2017, Hancock County had the highest rate of youth justice referrals (5.9 referrals per 100 young people) and the highest rate of income inequality with a Gini coefficient of .46. Hancock’s report rate to the child welfare system, on the other hand, was lower than most of the state (5.4 reports per 100 young people). Hancock also had one of the highest percentages (61%) of young people reporting that they matter in their communities, and the poverty rate in 2017 was lower than most counties in Maine (7.6%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



## HANCOCK & MAINE

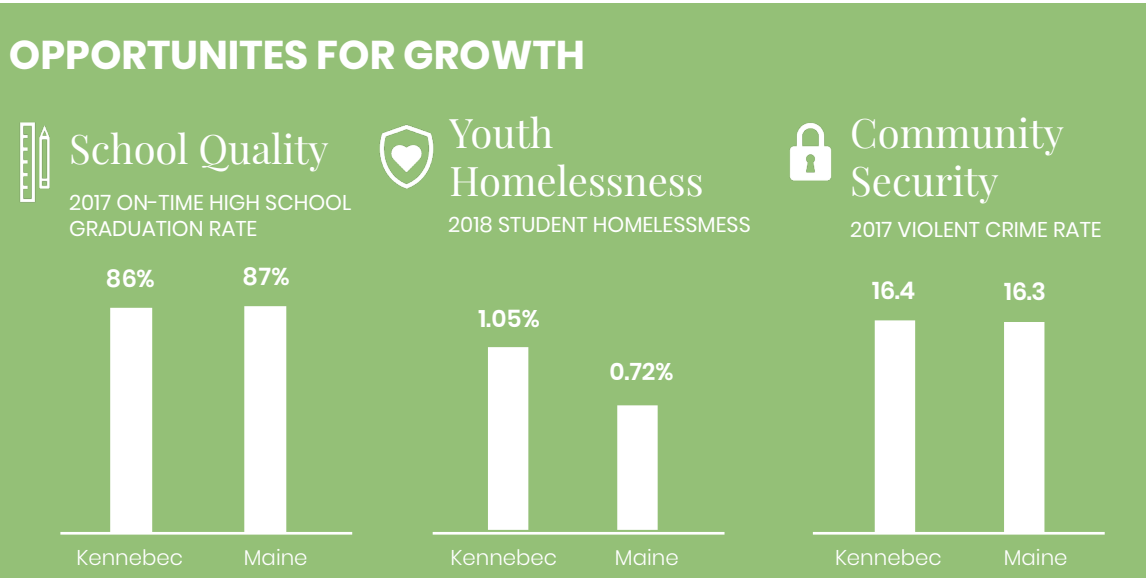
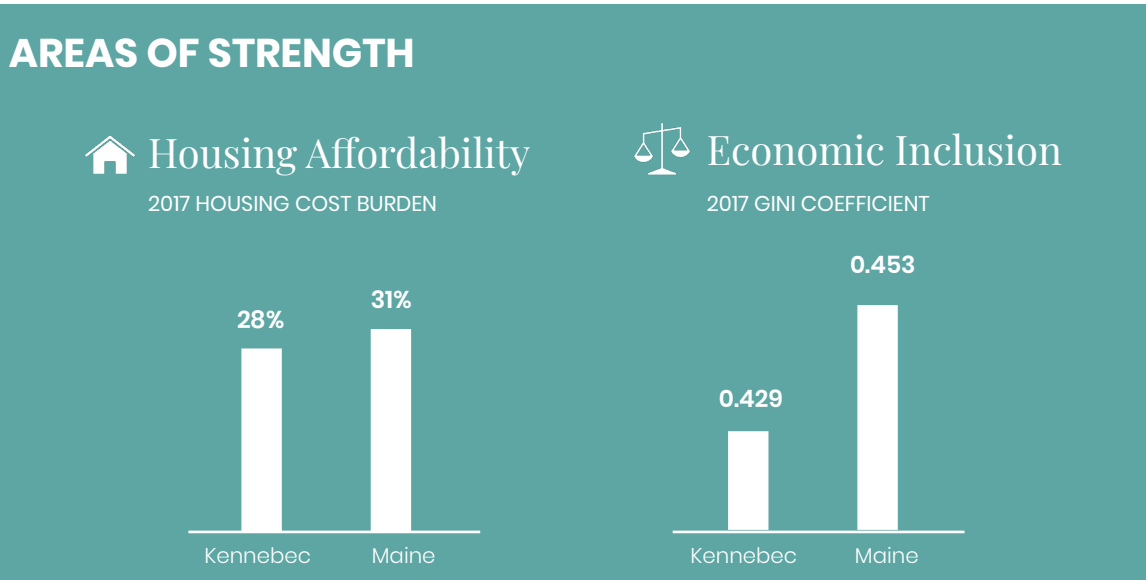
Determinant	Indicator	HANCOCK RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$51,438	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	30%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	5.7%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	7.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.466	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	87%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	10.6	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	60.8%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	32%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	HANCOCK		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	299	4.5	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,454	21.6	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	123	13.0	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	99	1.05	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	46	0.68%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	131	5.92	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	512	5.4	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Kennebec County

Kennebec County had the highest homelessness rate in the state in 2018 (1.05%). It likewise ranked unfavorably in comparison to the state on high school graduation (86%) and violent crime (16.4 incidents per 1000 people). On the positive side, Kennebec had one of the lowest percentages of burdened households in 2017 (28%), and one of the better rates of income inequality with a Gini coefficient of .43.



## KENNEBEC & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	KENNEBEC RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$50,116	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	28%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	5.7%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	8.9%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.429	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	86%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	16.4	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	57.7%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	27%	30%

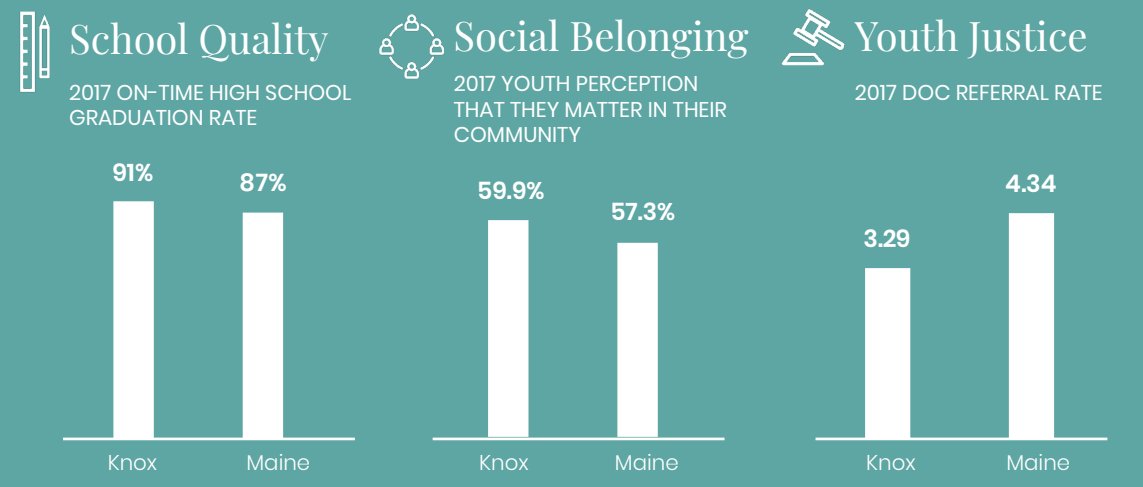
Outcome	Indicator	KENNEBEC		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	691	4.1	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	3,600	21.4	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	175	7.4	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	992	4.18	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	176	1.05%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	223	3.88	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	1,822	7.7	6.5

SNAPSHOT

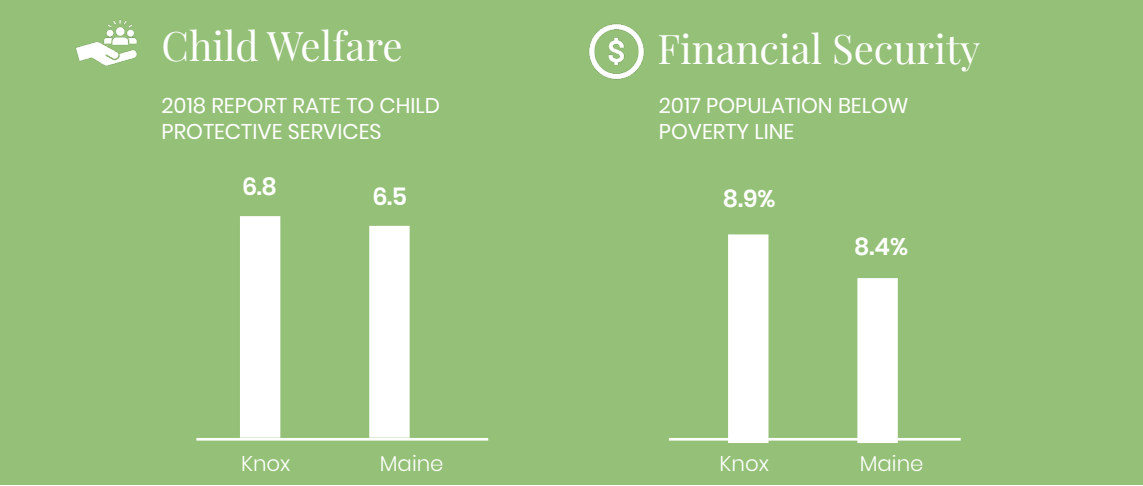
# Knox County

Knox County ranked unfavorably in comparison to Maine on one determinant indicator, poverty (8.9%), and one outcome indicator, reports to DHHS (6.8 reports per 100 young people). While the differences between the Knox rates and the Maine rates for both of these indicators is fairly small, these are nevertheless areas in which Knox could make improvements. Knox had the highest graduation rate in the county in 2018 at 91%. It had the third lowest rates of referral to the youth justice system in 2017 (3.3 referrals per 100 youth) and the highest proportion of young people who felt like they mattered in their communities in 2017 (60%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



## KNOX & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	KNOX RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$53,117	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	31%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	4.7%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	8.9%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.431	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	91%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	12.1	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	59.9%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	31%	30%

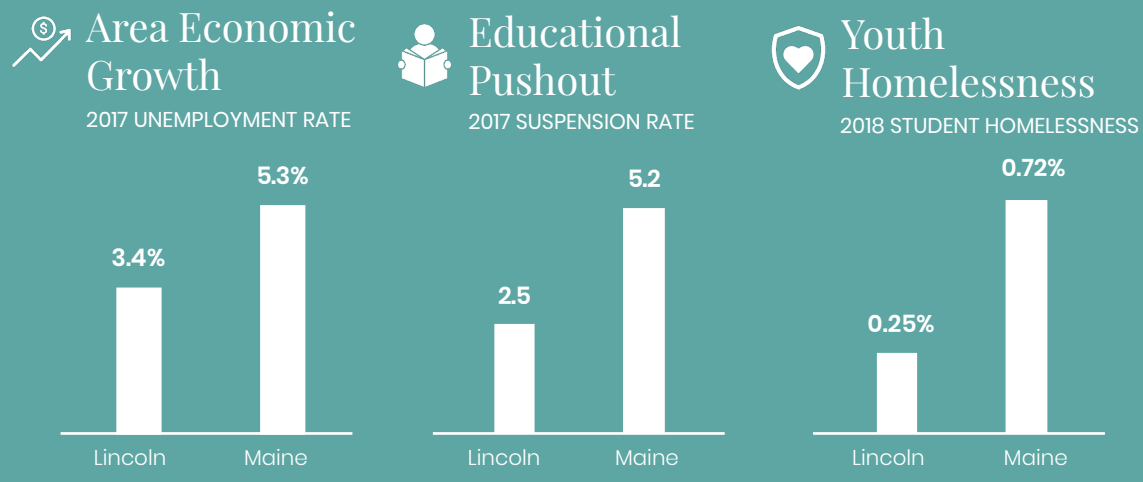
Outcome	Indicator	KNOX		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	217	4.4	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,206	24.1	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	58	8.1	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	137	1.92	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	30	0.60%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	57	3.29	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	484	6.8	6.5

SNAPSHOT

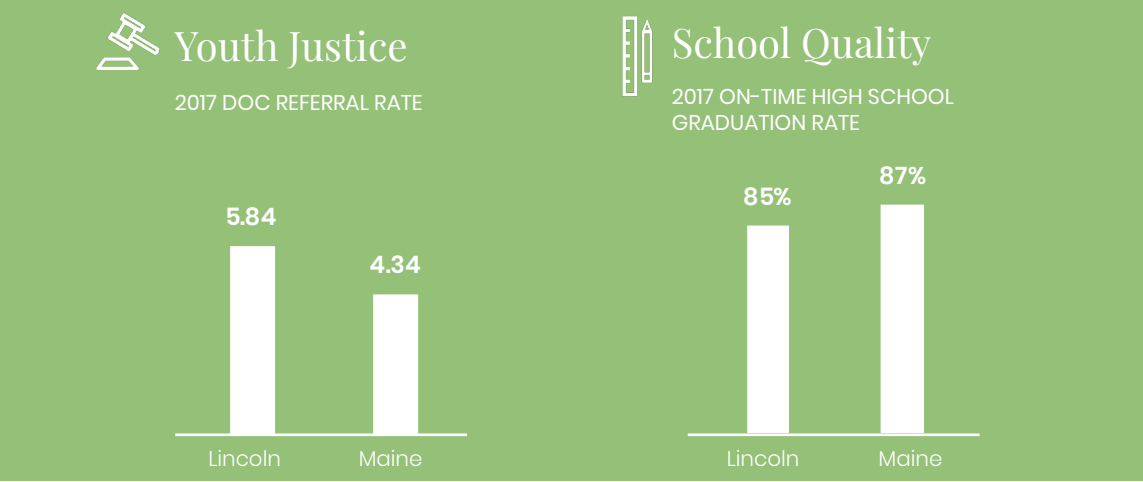
# Lincoln County

Lincoln County had the second highest referral rate to the youth justice system in 2017 (5.8 referrals per 100 youth) and the third lowest graduation rate in Maine in 2018 (85%). On the positive side, Lincoln had the lowest unemployment rate (3.4%) in the state in 2017. It also had the third lowest suspension rate (2.5 per 100 youth), the third lowest homelessness rate (0.25%), and the third highest proportion of bachelor’s degree (or higher) holders (33%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH





## LINCOLN & MAINE

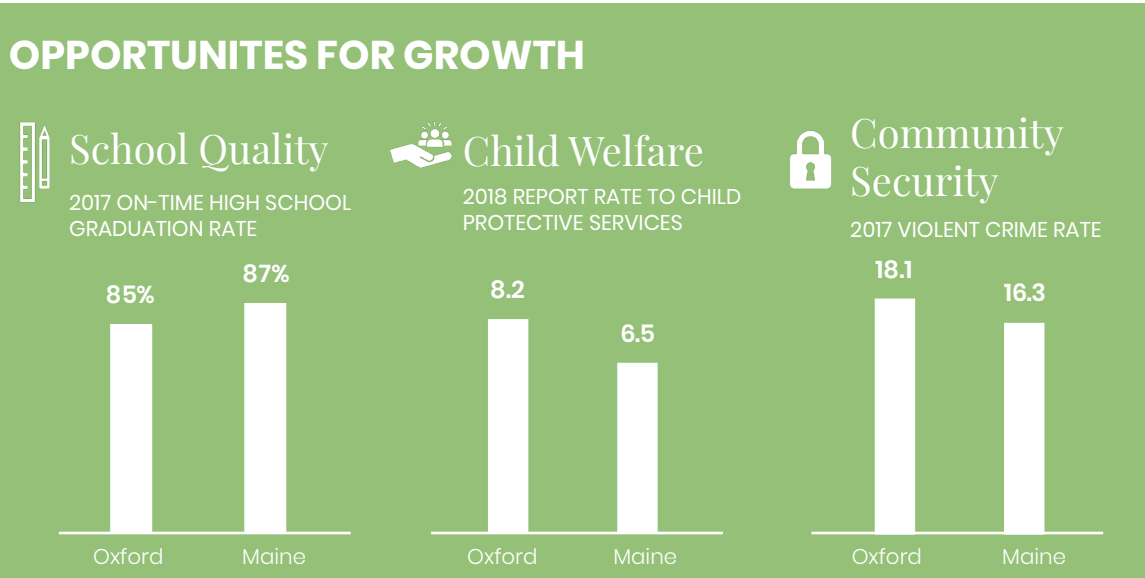
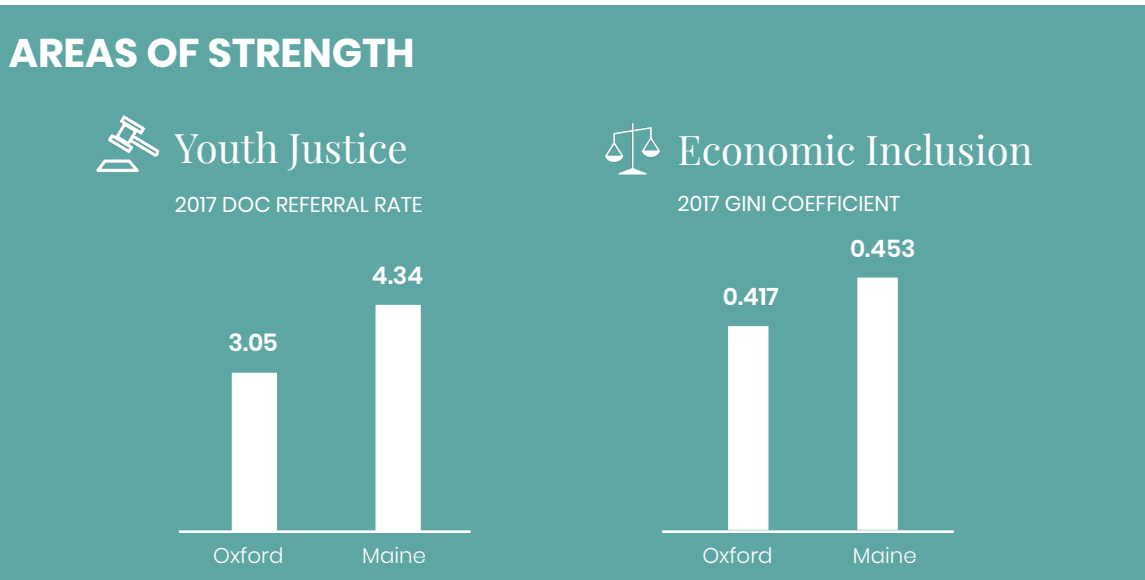
Determinant	Indicator	LINCOLN RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$54,041	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	31%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	3.4%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	7.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.446	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	85%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	11.0	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	59.8%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	33%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	LINCOLN		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	101	2.5	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	983	24.8	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	44	7.7	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	113	1.99	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	10	0.25%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	81	5.84	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	422	7.4	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Oxford County

Oxford County ranked second in the state in terms of crime, (18.1 incidents per 1000 people) and third in high school graduation (at 85%). It was also higher than most of the state in reports to the child welfare system (8.2 reports per 100 young people). On the positive side, Oxford had the lowest rate of referrals to the youth justice system in the state in 2017 (3.1 referrals per 100 youth), as well as the lowest rate of income inequality with a Gini coefficient of .42.



## OXFORD & MAINE

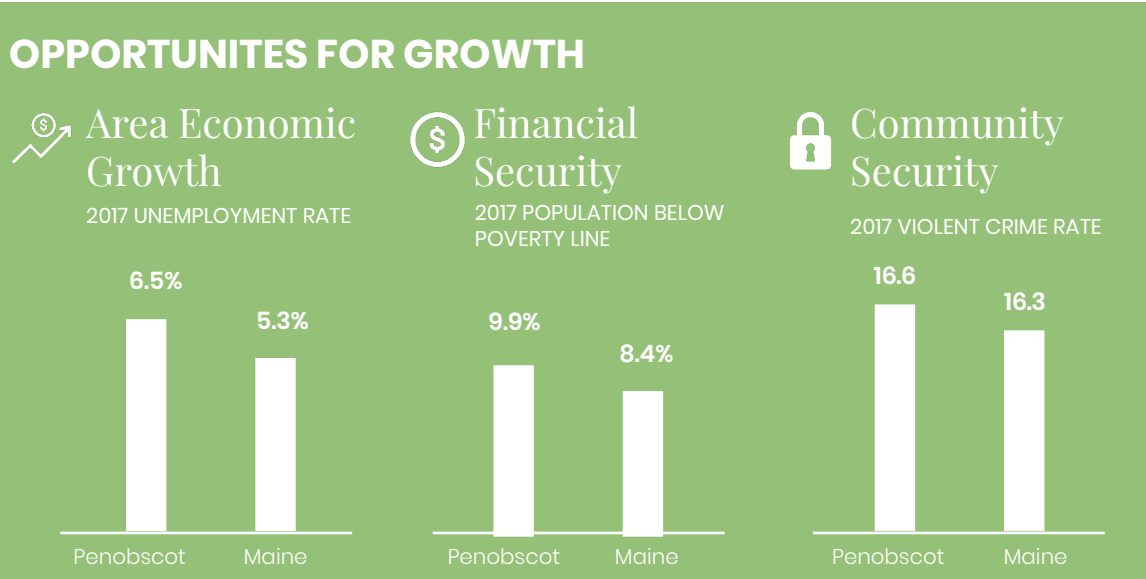
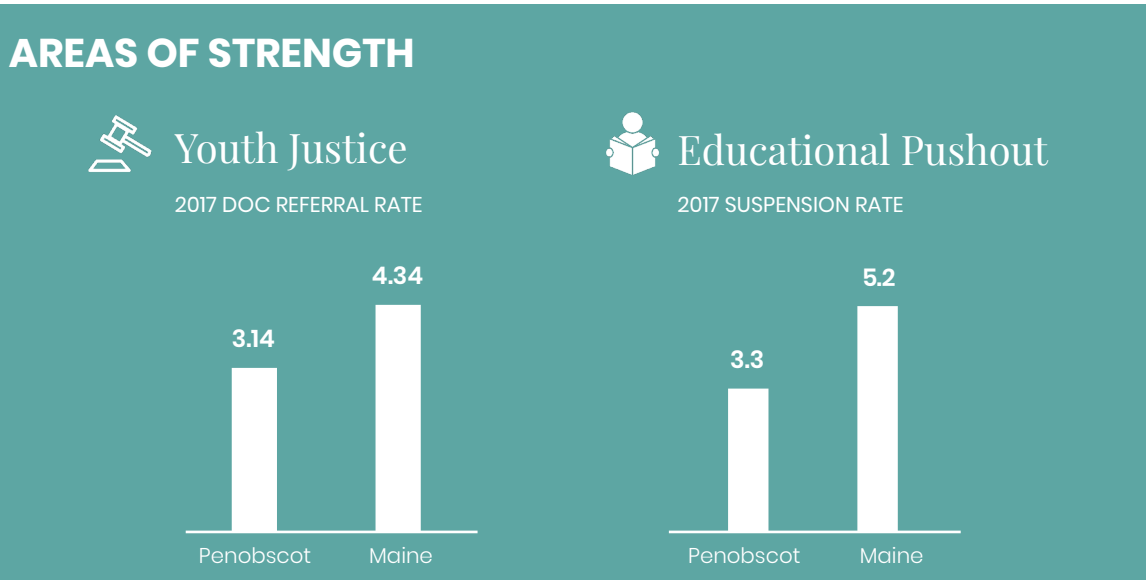
Determinant	Indicator	OXFORD RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$44,582	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	30%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	6.3%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	9.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.417	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	85%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	18.1	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	53.0%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	19%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	OXFORD		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	599	7.5	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,868	22.9	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	140	13.1	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	420	3.92	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	73	0.90%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	85	3.05	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	882	8.2	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Penobscot County

Penobscot County had a higher unemployment rate in 2017 than most counties (6.5%). It also had a higher poverty rate (9.9%), greater income inequality (.45), and a higher crime rate (16.6 incidents per 1000 people) than most counties. On the positive side, Penobscot was one of three counties to decrease suspension rates between 2015 and 2017 and had one of the lowest rates of referral to the youth justice system in 2017 (3.1 referrals per 100 youth).



## PENOBSCOT & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	PENOBSCOT RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$47,886	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	30%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	6.5%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	9.9%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.452	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	86%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	16.6	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	54.5%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	26%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	PENOBSCOT		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	653	3.3	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	4,447	22.1	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	163	5.9	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	486	1.75	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	112	0.56%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	212	3.14	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	2,134	7.7	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Piscataquis County

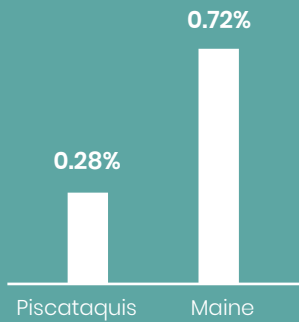
Piscataquis County had the lowest average household income in the state in 2017 (\$47,886) and the lowest percentage of young people who reported feelings of belonging in their community (47.2%). It had the second highest percentage of burdened households (32%) and the second lowest percentage of adults with bachelor’s degrees or higher (18%). On the positive side, Piscataquis had the biggest drop in homelessness rate between 2017 and 2018 (from 1.0% to 0.3%). Crime rates in Piscataquis are also low (10.6 crimes per 1000 persons).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



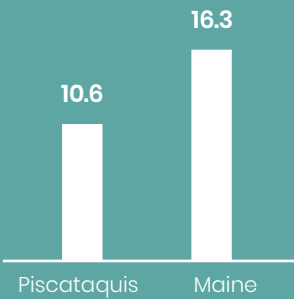
### Youth Homelessness

2018 STUDENT HOMELESSNESS



### Community Security

2017 VIOLENT CRIME RATE

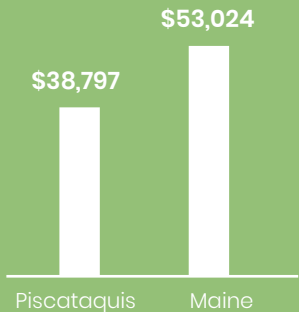


## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



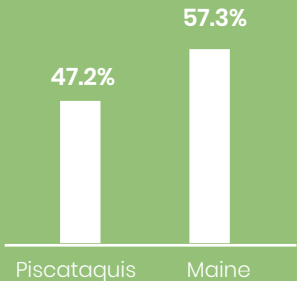
### Economic Well-being

2017 MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME



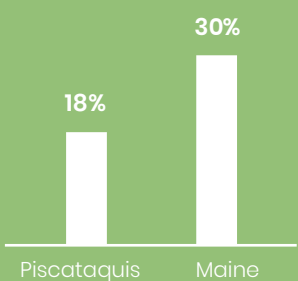
### Social Belonging

2017 YOUTH PERCEPTION THAT THEY MATTER IN THEIR COMMUNITY



### Human Capital

2017 % POPULATION WITH A BA OR HIGHER



## PISCATAQUIS & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	PISCATAQUIS RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$38,797	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	32%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	7.8%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	12.1%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.44	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	85%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	10.6	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	47.2%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	18%	30%

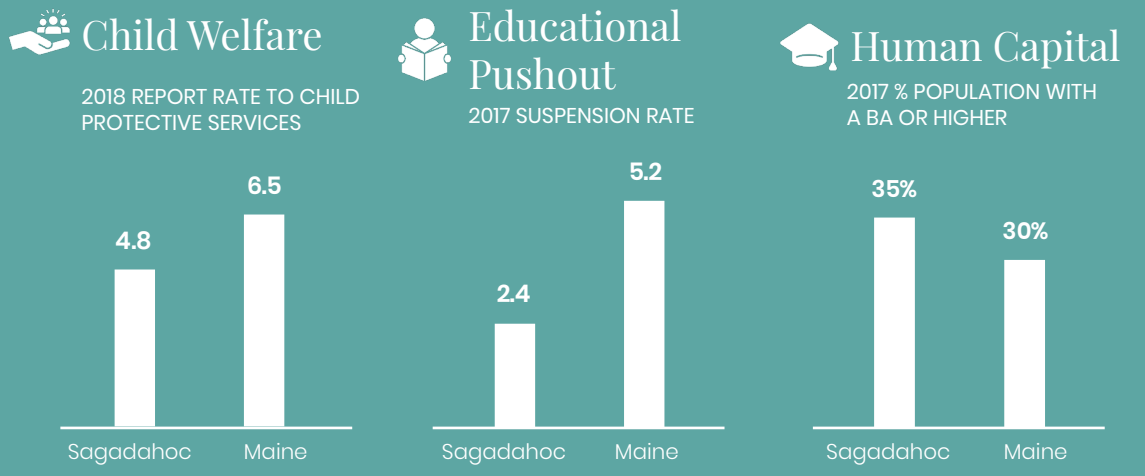
Outcome	Indicator	PISCATAQUIS		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	237	11.2	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	416	19.5	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	34	12.0	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	45	1.59	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	6	0.28%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	28	3.71	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	202	7.1	6.5

SNAPSHOT

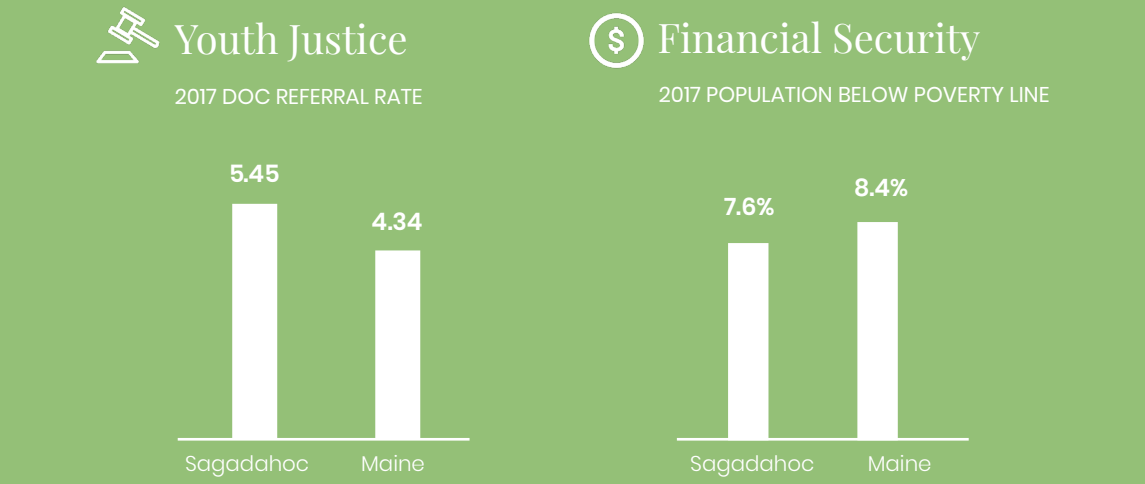
# Sagadahoc County

Sagadahoc County had a higher referral rate to the youth justice system than most counties in Maine in 2017 (5.5 referrals per 100 youth). It was also one of three counties that saw a small increase in the poverty rate between 2010 and 2017 (from 5.7% to 7.6%). On the positive side, Sagadahoc compared favorably to the rest of the state in terms of suspension rate (2.4%), the rate of reports to the child welfare system (4.8 reports per 100 young people), and the percentage of adults with a bachelor’s degree or higher (35%).

## AREAS OF STRENGTH



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH





## SAGADAHOC & MAINE

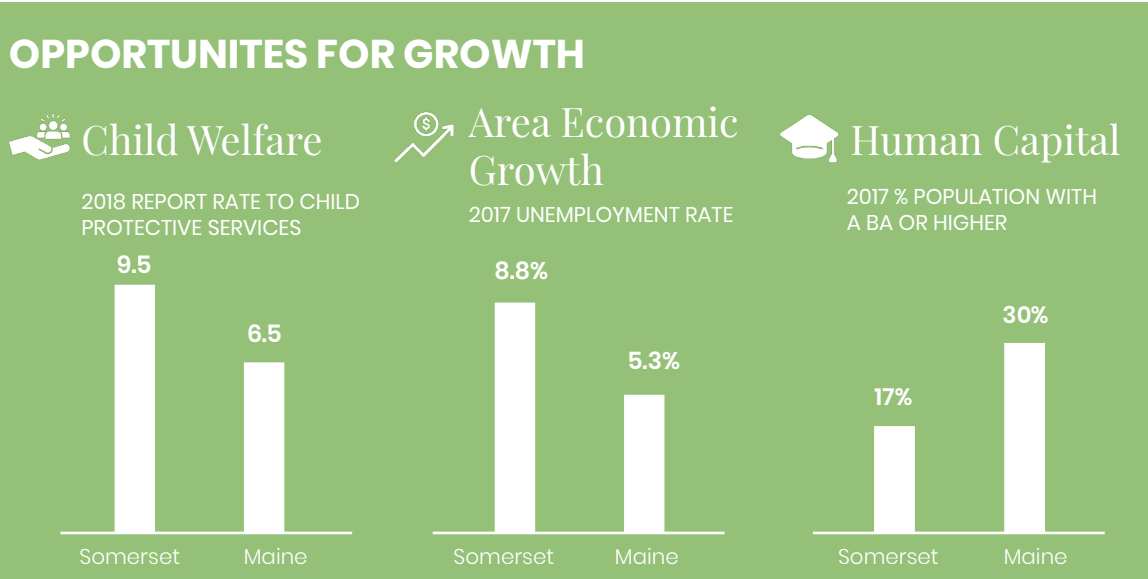
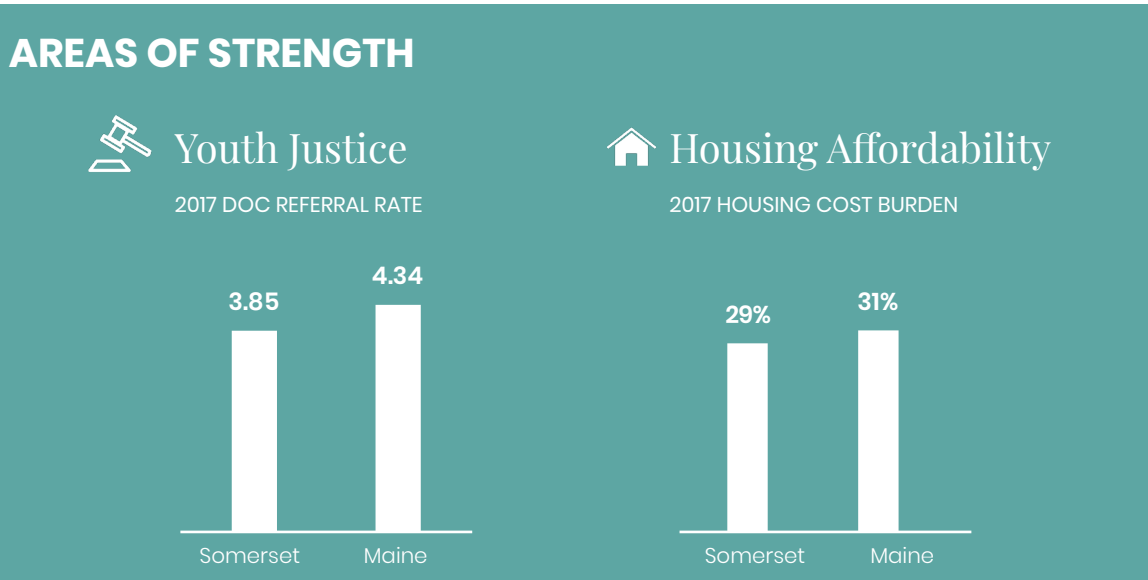
Determinant	Indicator	SAGADAHOC RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$60,457	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	30%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	4.1%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	7.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.425	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	86%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	13.4	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	58.6%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	35%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	SAGADAHOC		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	111	2.4	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,160	24.1	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	57	8.4	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	113	1.67	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	43	0.89%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	86	5.45	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	324	4.8	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Somerset County

Somerset County had the highest report rate to the child welfare system (9.5 reports per 100 young people), the lowest percentage of adults with a bachelor’s degree or higher (17%), the highest unemployment rate (8.8%) and the highest percentage of poverty (12.6%). On the positive side, Somerset had a lower rate of referral to the youth justice system (3.9 referrals per 100 youth) than most counties. It also had a lower housing burden (29%) than the Maine average.



## SOMERSET & MAINE

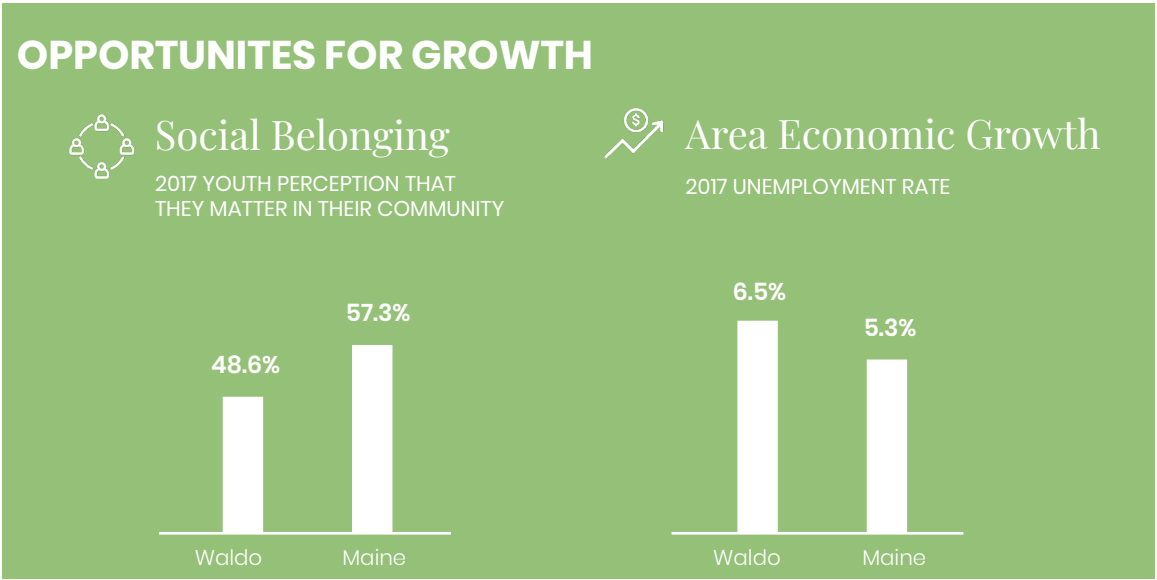
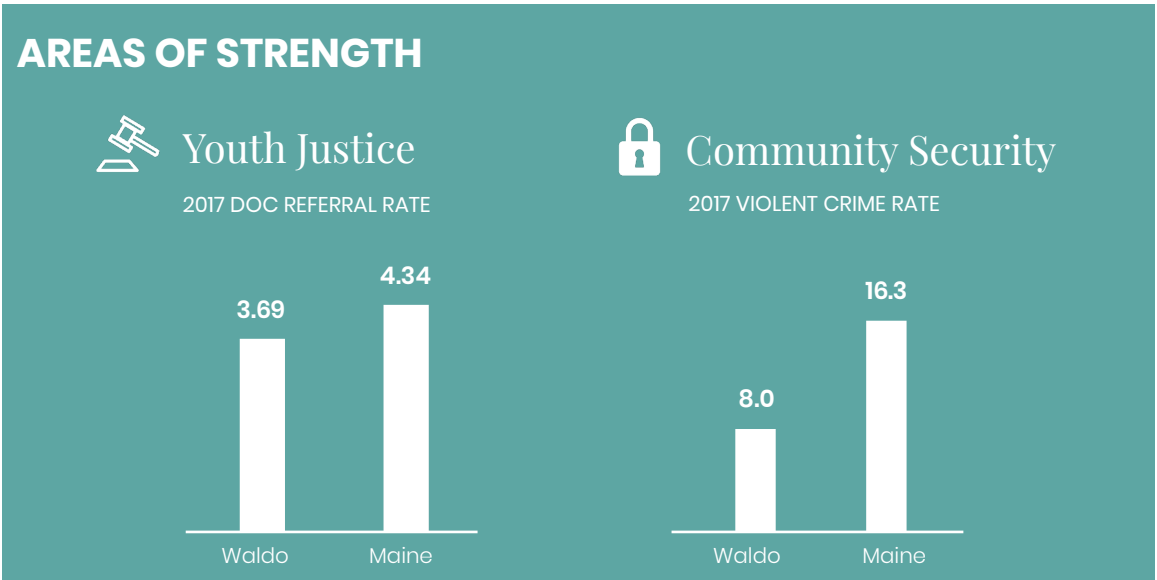
Determinant	Indicator	SOMERSET RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$41,549	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	29%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	8.8%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	12.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.433	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	84%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	17.7	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	50.5%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	17%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	SOMERSET		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	848	11.3	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,580	21.1	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	51	5.2	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	387	3.98	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	45	0.60%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	97	3.85	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	932	9.5	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Waldo County

Waldo County’s unemployment rate was higher than most other counties in 2017 (6.5%). It also had the second lowest percentage of young people who felt like they mattered in their community in 2017 (49%). On the positive side, Waldo had the lowest crime rate in the state in 2017 (8.0 crimes per 1000 persons) and a lower rate of referral to the juvenile justice system (3.7 referrals per 100 youth) than most counties in Maine in 2017.



## WALDO & MAINE

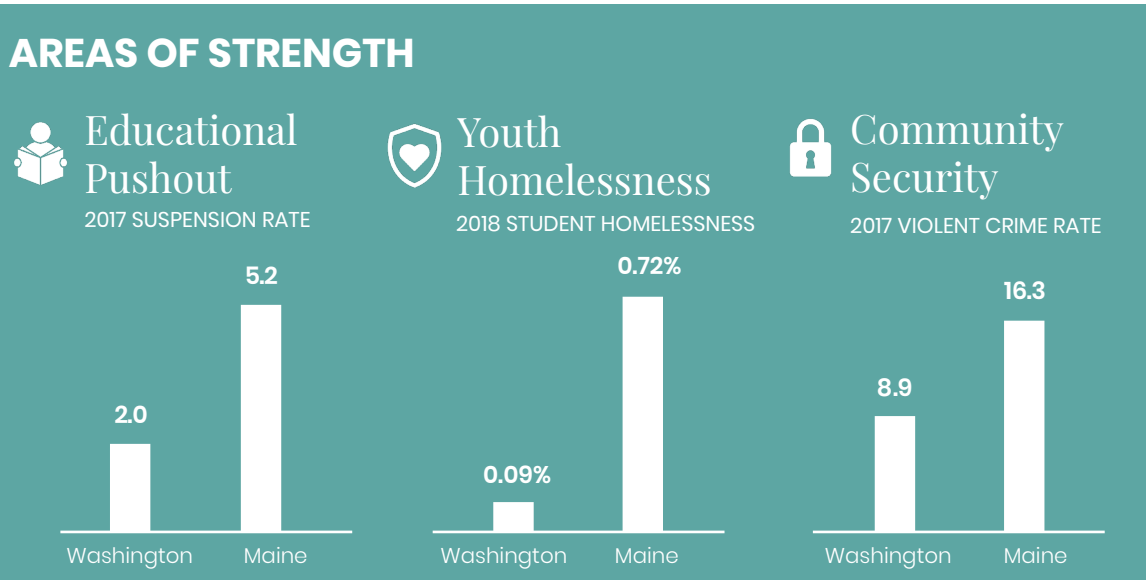
Determinant	Indicator	WALDO RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$50,162	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	28%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	6.5%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	9.6%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.446	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	87%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	8.0	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	48.6%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	30%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	WALDO		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	258	4.9	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	1,243	23.9	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	56	7.4	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	220	2.91	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	32	0.62%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	66	3.69	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	582	7.7	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# Washington County

In 2017, Washington County had the second highest poverty rate (12.3%) and unemployment rate (7.9%) in Maine. It had the third worst measures of household income (\$40,328) and income inequality (.46) in Maine in 2017. On the positive side, Washington had the lowest suspension rate (2%) and homelessness rate in 2018 (.09%), and the second lowest crime rate in 2017 (8.9 violent crimes per 1000 people).



## WASHINGTON & MAINE

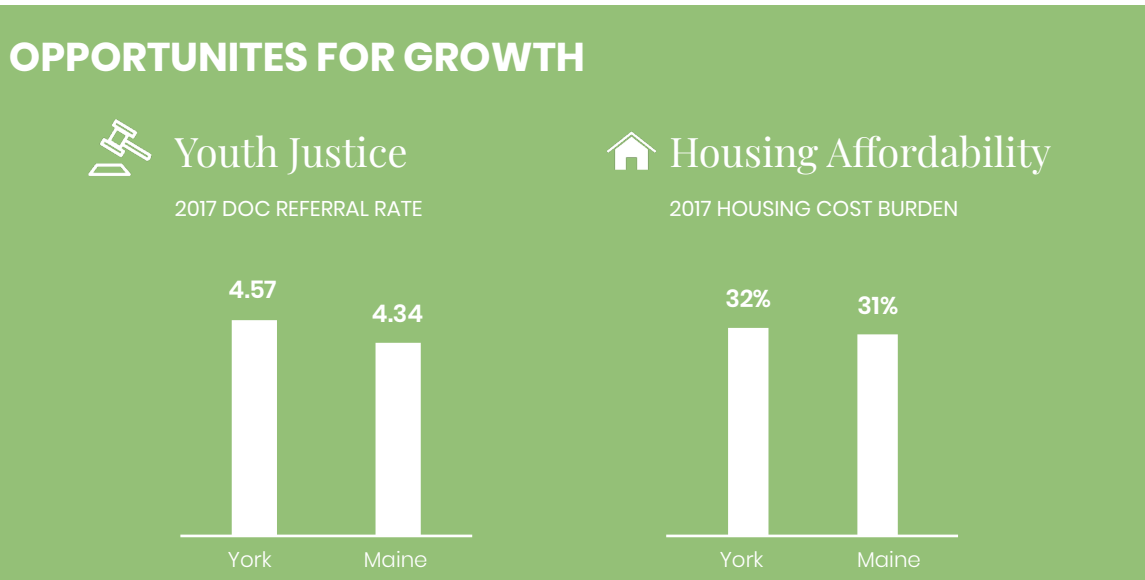
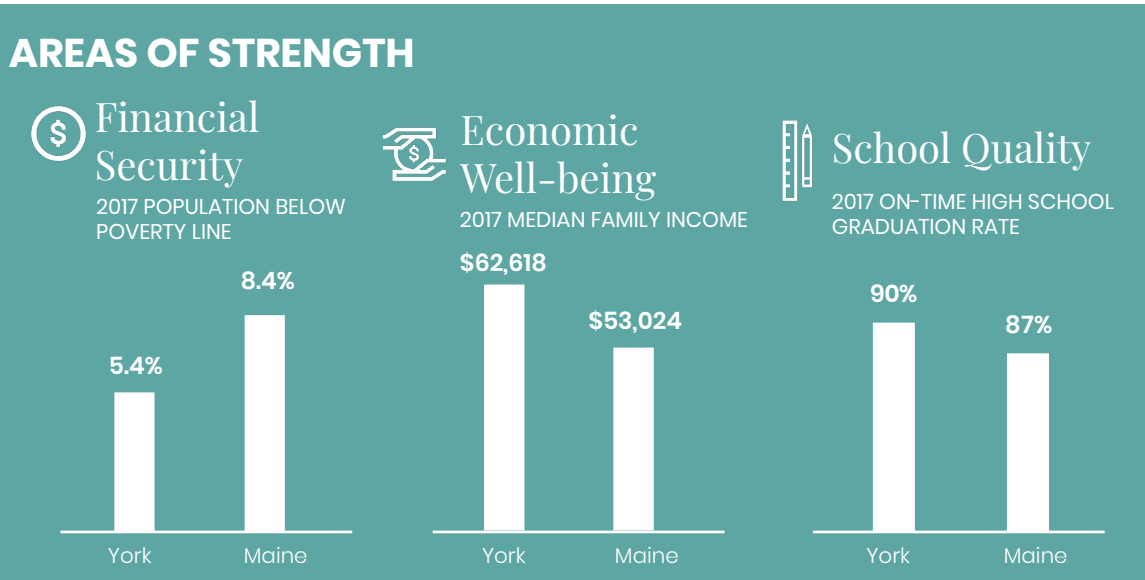
Determinant	Indicator	WASHINGTON RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$40,328	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	28%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	7.9%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	12.3%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.460	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	87%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	8.9	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	54.2%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	21%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	WASHINGTON		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	85	2.0	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	948	22.3	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	16	2.7	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	152	2.56	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	4	0.09%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	64	4.65	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	382	6.4	6.5

SNAPSHOT

# York County

York County had the second highest housing cost burden (32%) in 2017. The rate of referral to the youth justice system (4.6 referrals per 100 youth) was also higher than the Maine average, though it must be acknowledged that this difference is fairly small and is the only outcome indicator for which York’s rate was unfavorable when compared to the state rate. York had the lowest poverty rate in 2017 (5.4%) and the second highest average household income (\$62,618). York also had a higher graduation rate than most counties in Maine in 2018 (90%).





## YORK & MAINE

Determinant	Indicator	YORK RATE	MAINE RATE
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC WELLBEING	Household Income	\$62,618	\$53,024
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY	Housing Cost Burden	32%	31%
AREA ECONOMIC GROWTH	Unemployment	4.8%	5.3%
FINANCIAL SECURITY	Poverty	5.4%	8.4%
ECONOMIC INCLUSION	Income Inequality	0.438	0.453
SCHOOL QUALITY	HS Graduation	90%	87%
COMMUNITY SECURITY	Crime	14.6	16.3
SOCIAL BELONGING	Social Belonging	58.4%	57.3%
HUMAN CAPITAL	Education Level	31%	30%

Outcome	Indicator	YORK		MAINE RATE
		NUMBER	RATE	
EDUCATIONAL PUSHOUT	Suspensions	896	3.3	5.2
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM	IEPs/504s	5,887	21.3	21.3
	TCM, Developmental Tx	372	9.6	7.5
	TCM, Behavioral Tx	781	2.01	2.56
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS	Student Homelessness	129	0.47%	0.72%
YOUTH JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT	DOC Referrals	437	4.57	4.34
CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	DHHS Referrals	2,202	5.6	6.5

## ENDNOTES

- 1 Homeless counts and counts of youth disconnected from school come from the Maine Department of Education. Counts of youth receiving behavior health services and youth involved with the child welfare system come from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. Counts of youth involved with the juvenile justice system come from the Maine Department of Corrections. Further details about these datasets can be found in the *Indicators of Economic and Social Well-Being and Early System Involvement* section of this report.
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