

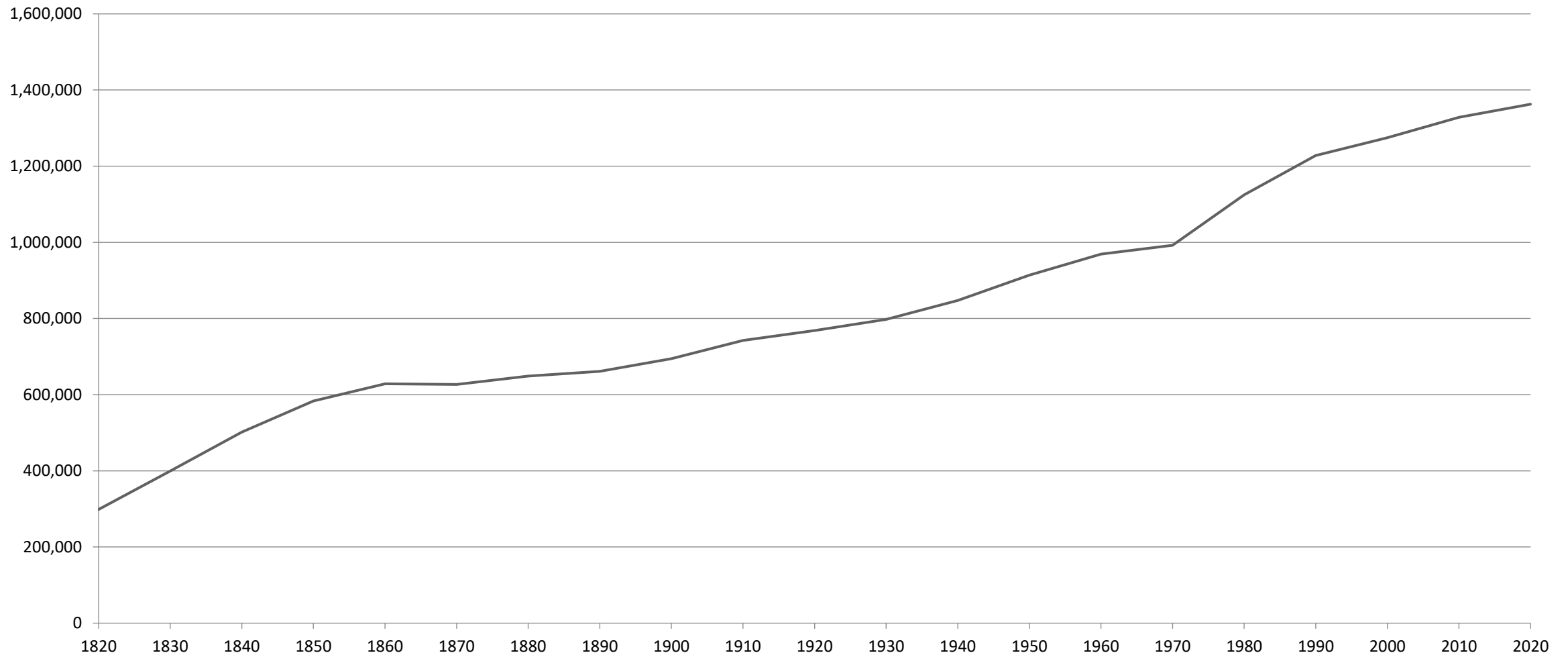
Maine's demographic and socioeconomic context

University of Maine SOE – The Maine Economy

October 20, 2022

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Office of the State Economist

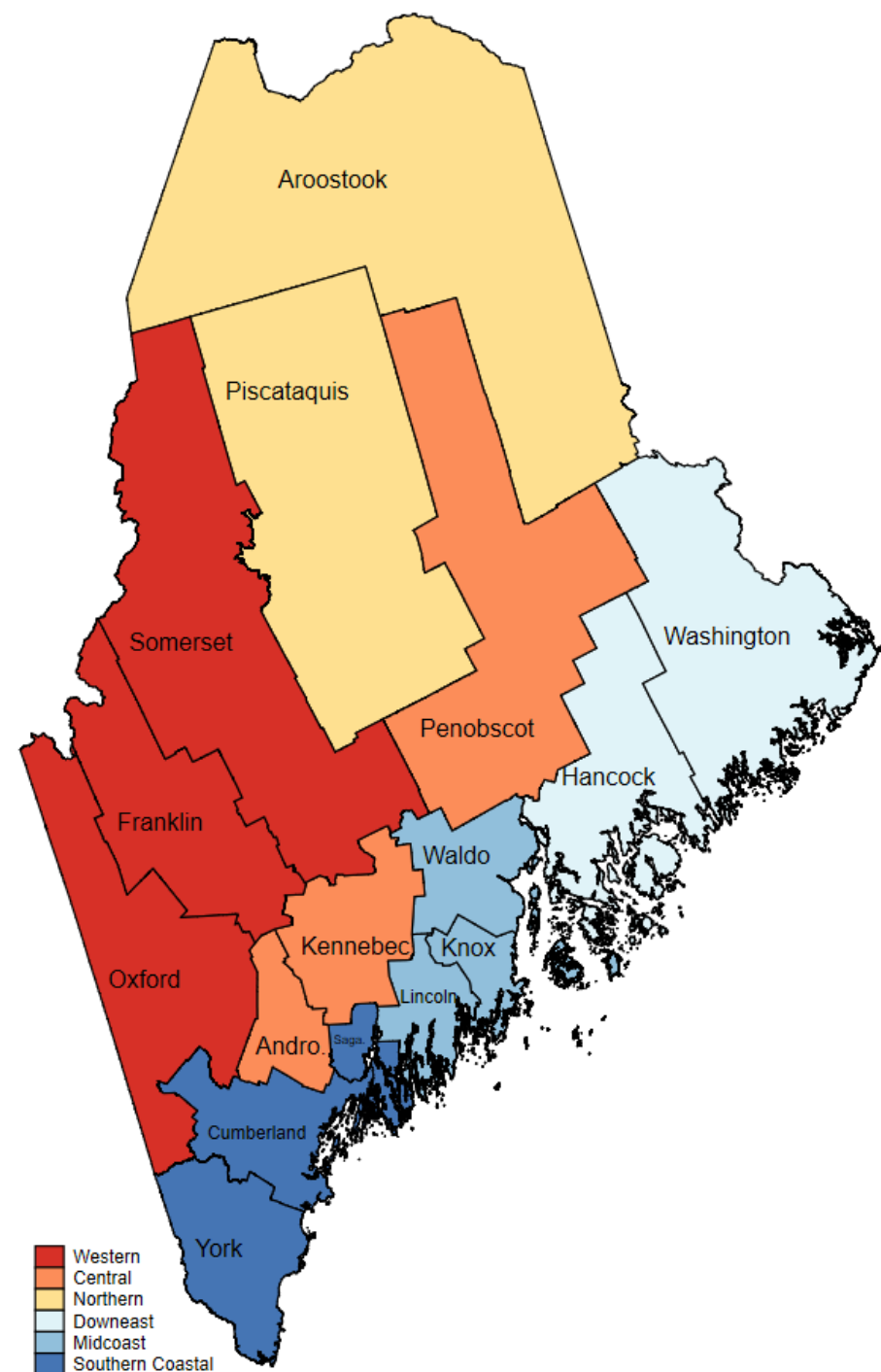
Total Population, Maine



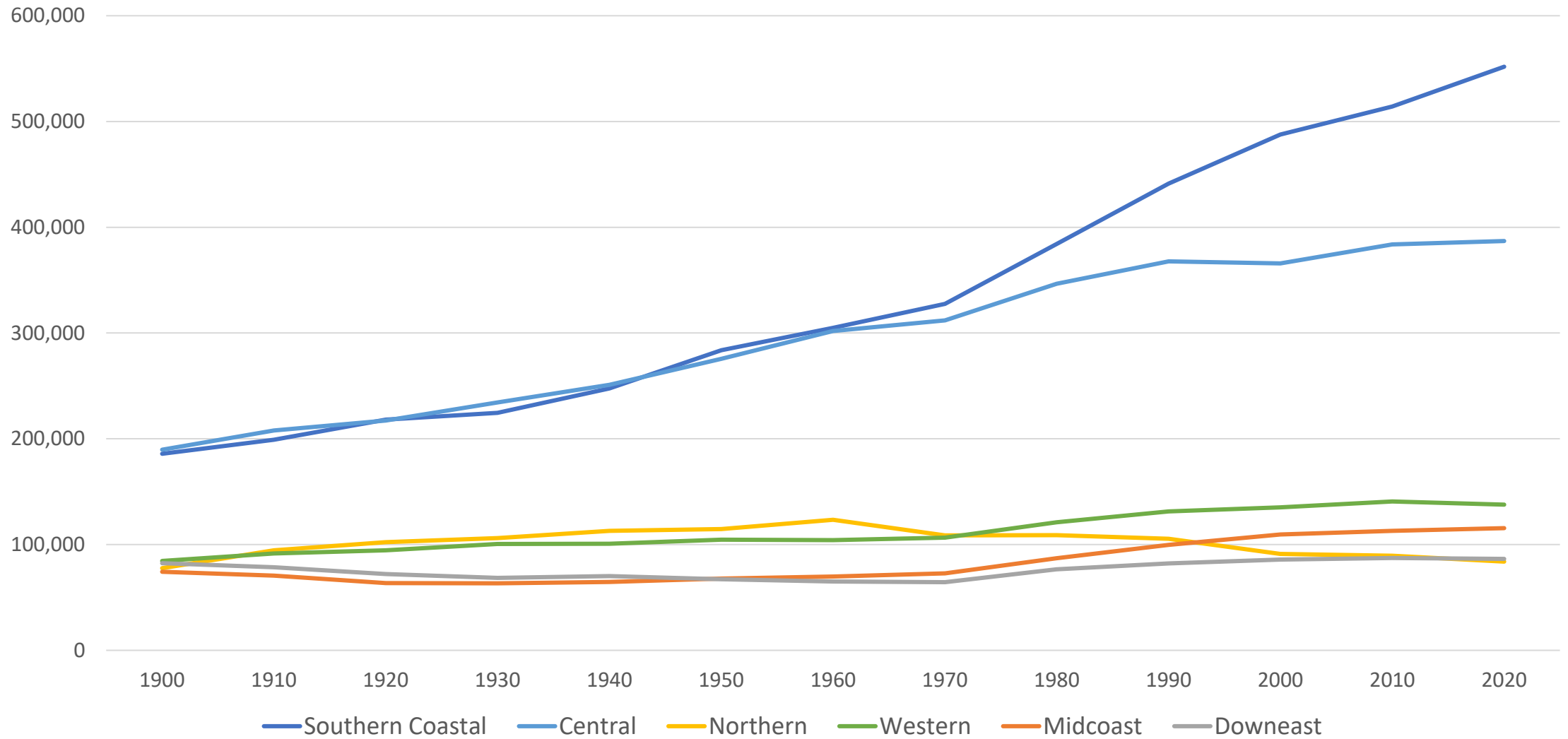
Regional trend

- Northern & Western counties, plus Penobscot and Washington had their highest population in a year other than 2020:
 - Aroostook: 1960
 - Franklin: 2010
 - Oxford: 2010
 - Penobscot: 2010
 - Piscataquis: 1920
 - Somerset: 2010
 - Washington: 1900

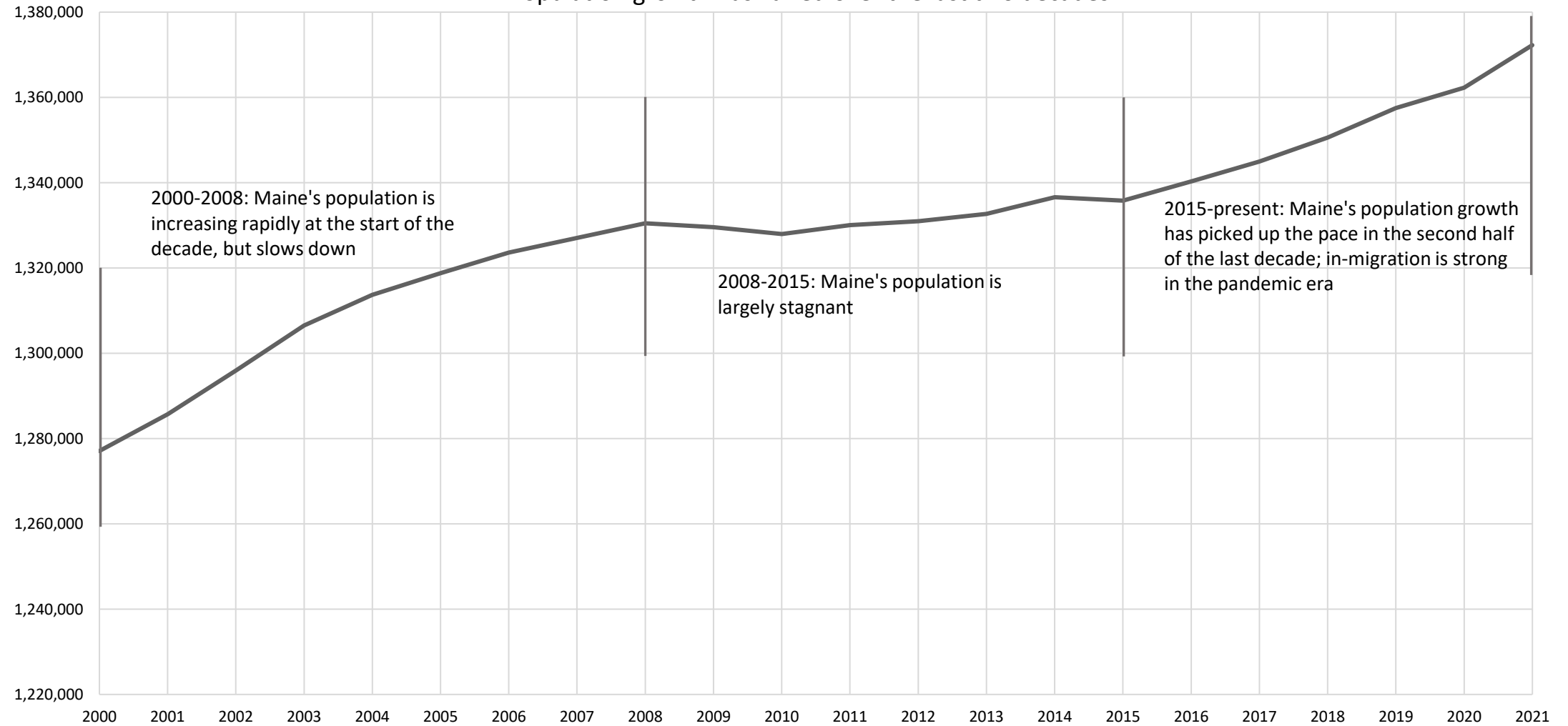
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census



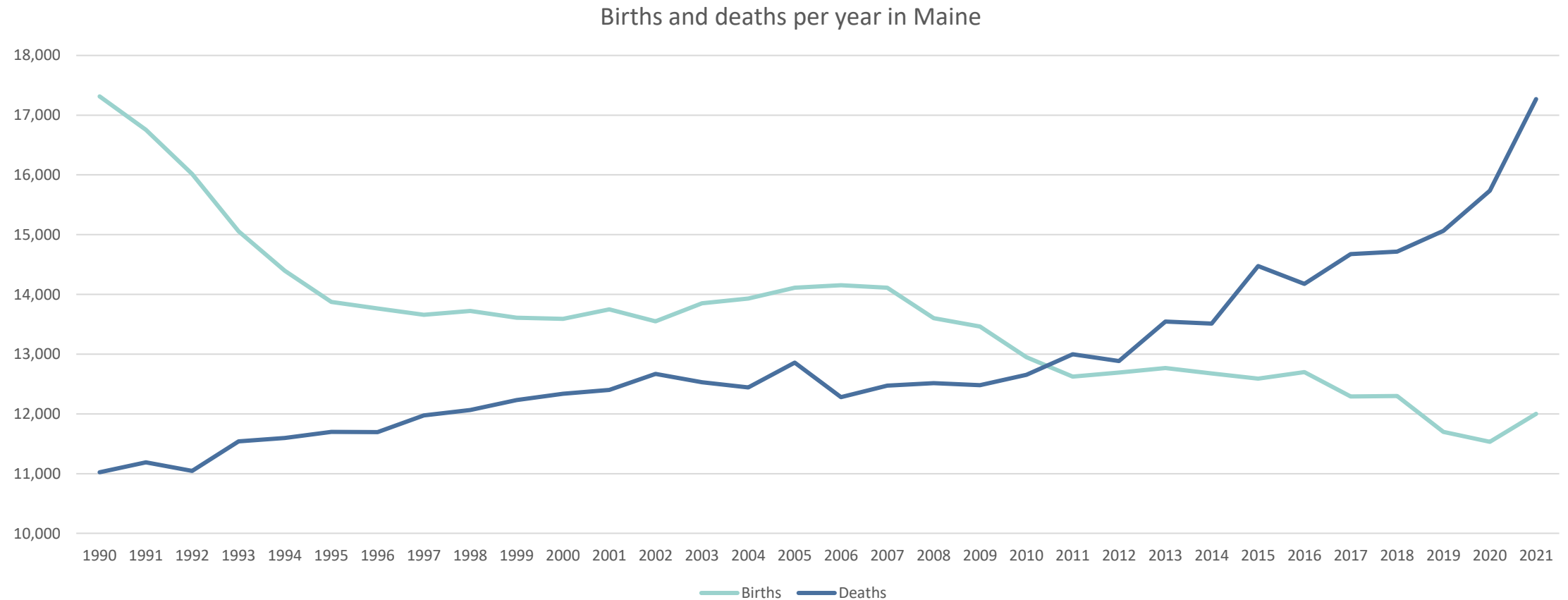
Population by Region



Population growth has varied over the last two decades

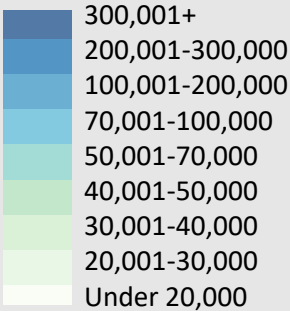


Maine has experienced natural decline since 2011



Population growth and decline varies drastically across the state; southern & coastal counties grew the fastest, while several Rim counties declined

Six counties saw growth or decline within 5%. While Aroostook (-9%) and Washington (-8%) saw the fastest decline during this time, Cumberland (14%) and York (13.5%) saw the fastest growth.



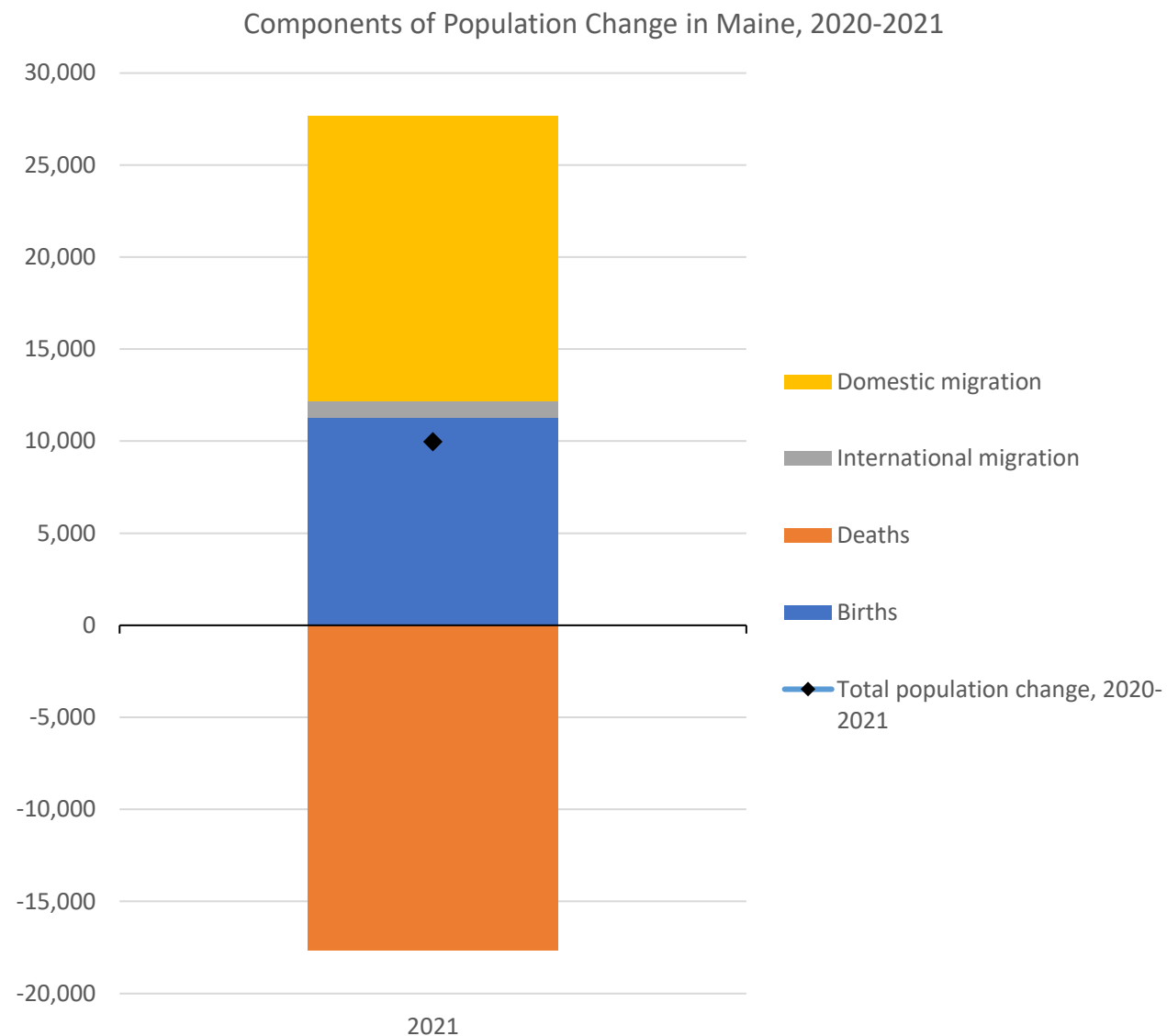
More recent demographic overview

2020 Decennial Population: 1,362,359 (42nd in U.S.)

- Population increase of 2.6% from 2010-2020 (42nd in U.S.)

2020-2021:

- Population increase of 0.7% (14th in U.S.)
- Net migration = 12.0 per thousand (7th in U.S.)

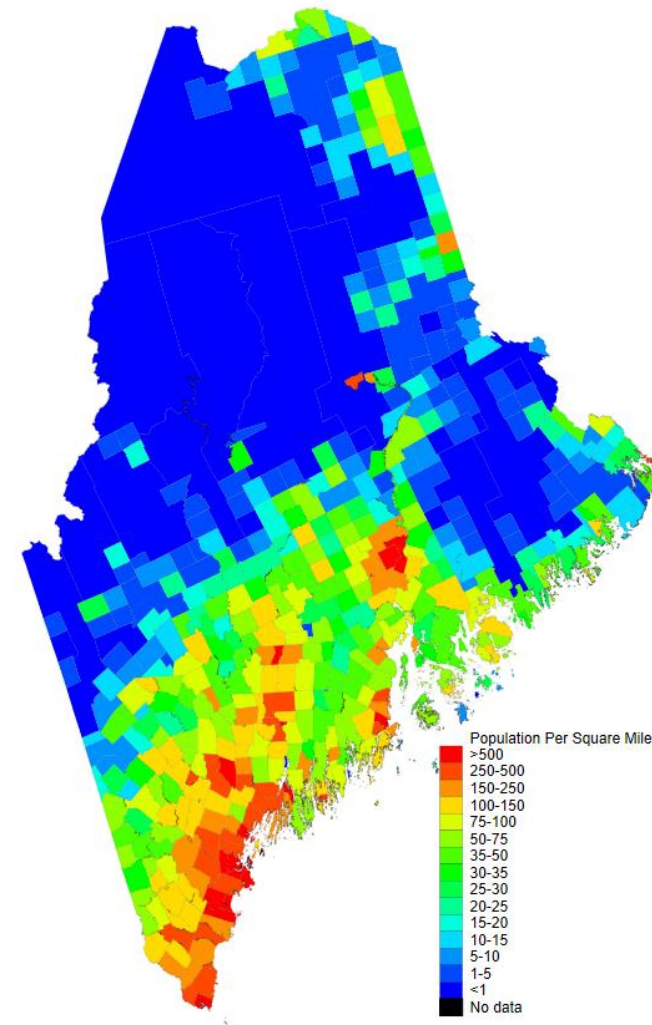


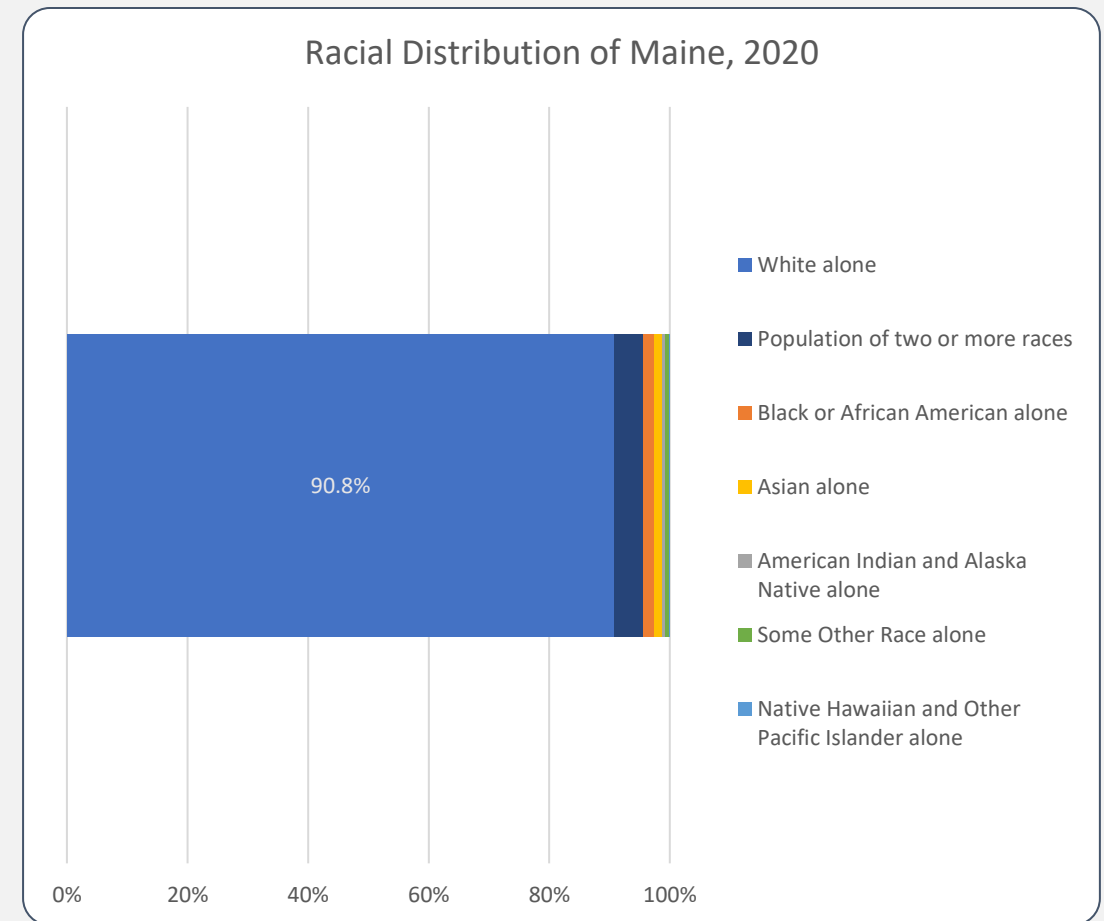
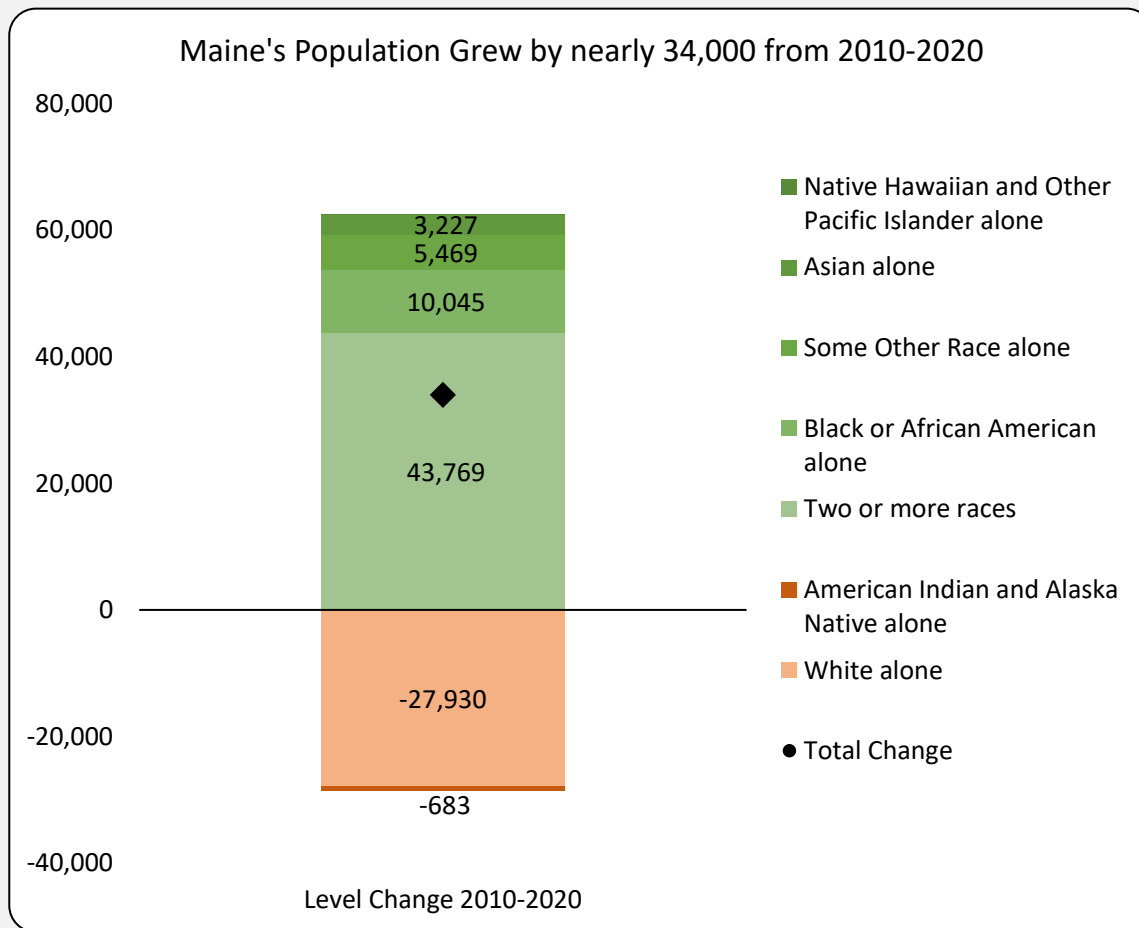
Maine's population is sparse, highly concentrated in a few areas

- By land mass, most of the state has fewer than 5 people per square mile
- The U.S. average population density in 2020: 93.8
- Density in Maine's towns range from 0 in large swathes of the Rim areas, to 3,175 in Portland
- 400 of 529 towns in Maine have a population density less than the national average

Population Density in Maine County Subdivisions

Source: 2020 Decennial Census

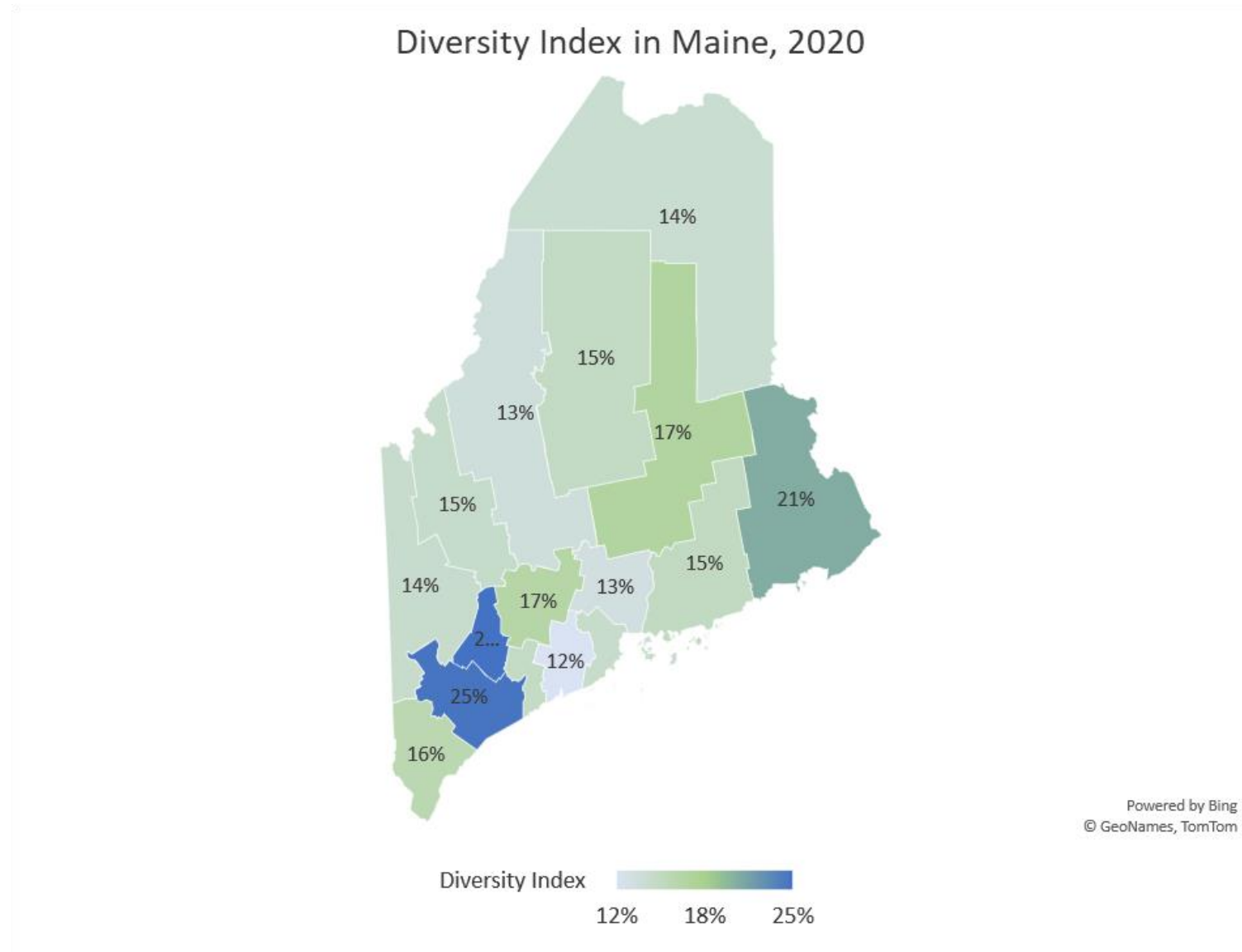




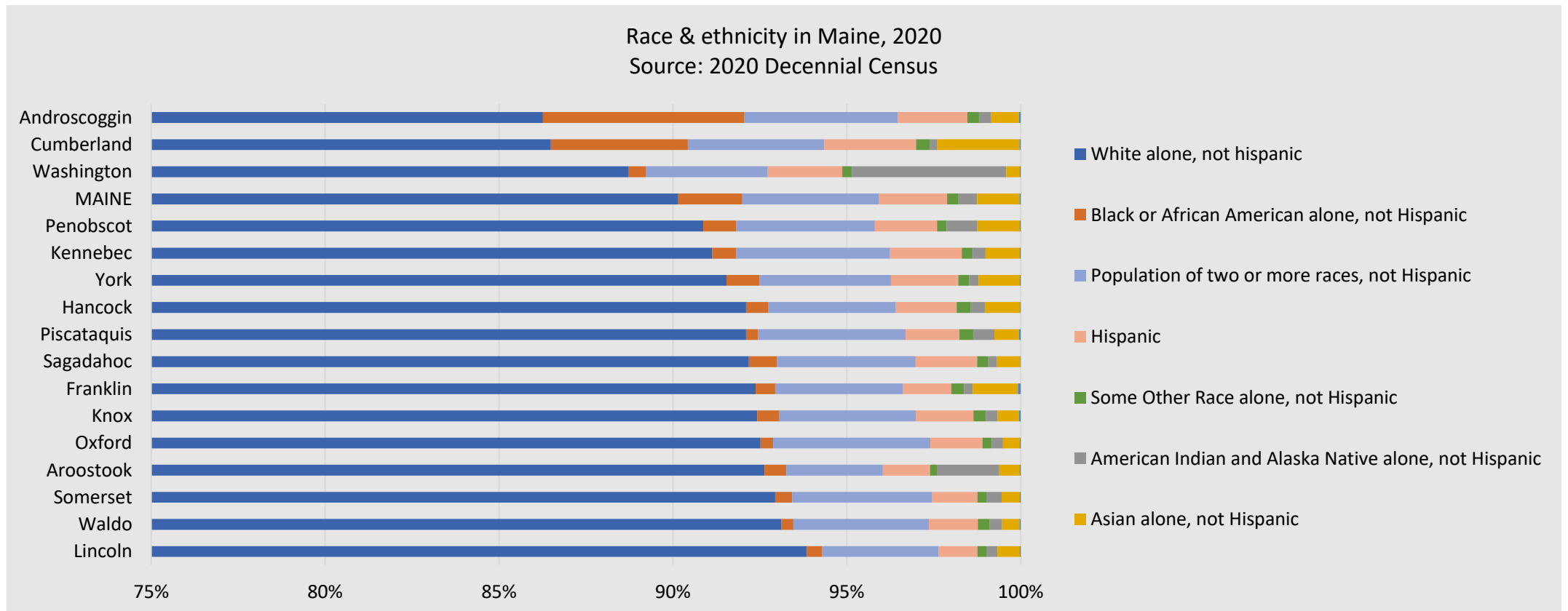
Maine is the least diverse state, but steadily improving

2020 Census Diversity Index

- This index tells us the chance that two people selected at random will be from different race or ethnicity groups
- In 2020, Maine ranked as the least diverse state in the U.S., although diversity scores vary from county to county.

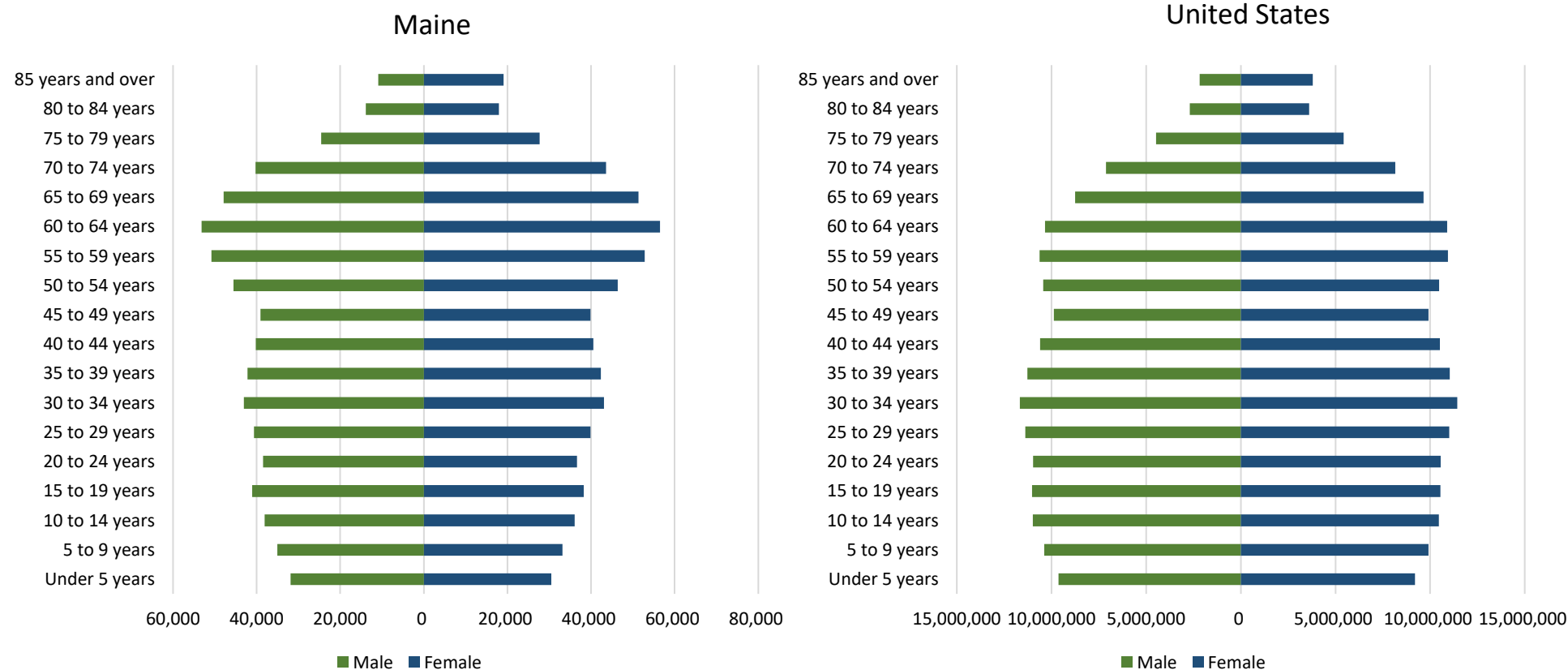


Maine is 90.2% White alone, Not Hispanic Compared to 94.4% in 2010

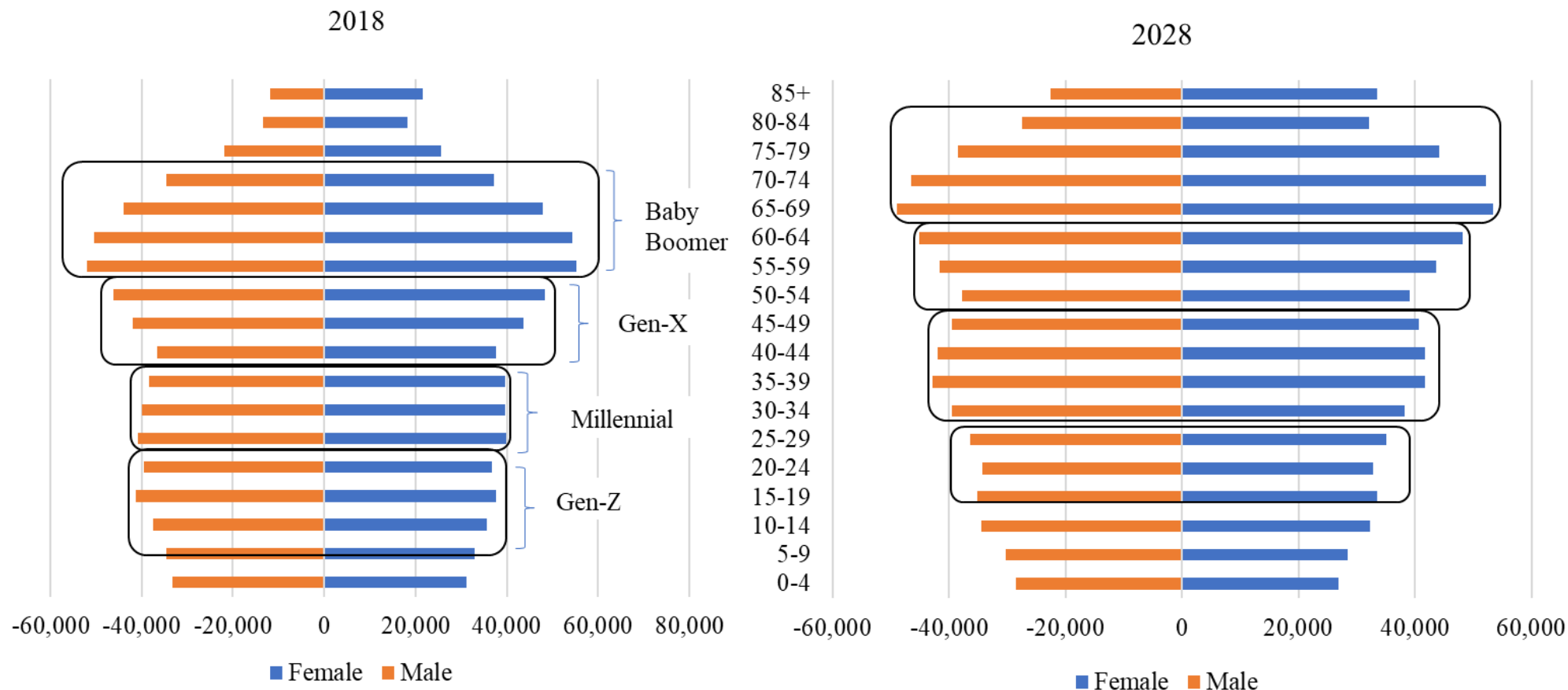


Maine's age distribution: older, more concentrated than the U.S.

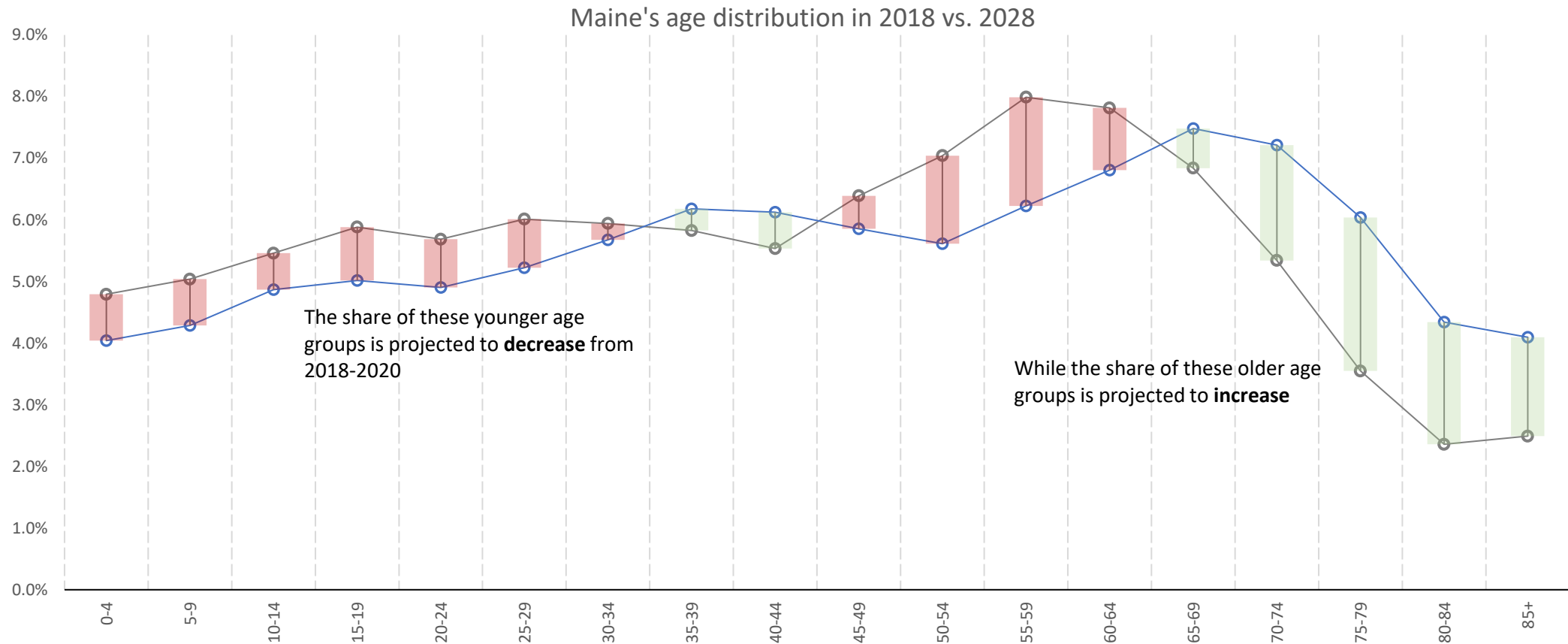
2021



Maine's generational structure contributes to widening distribution of eldest categories



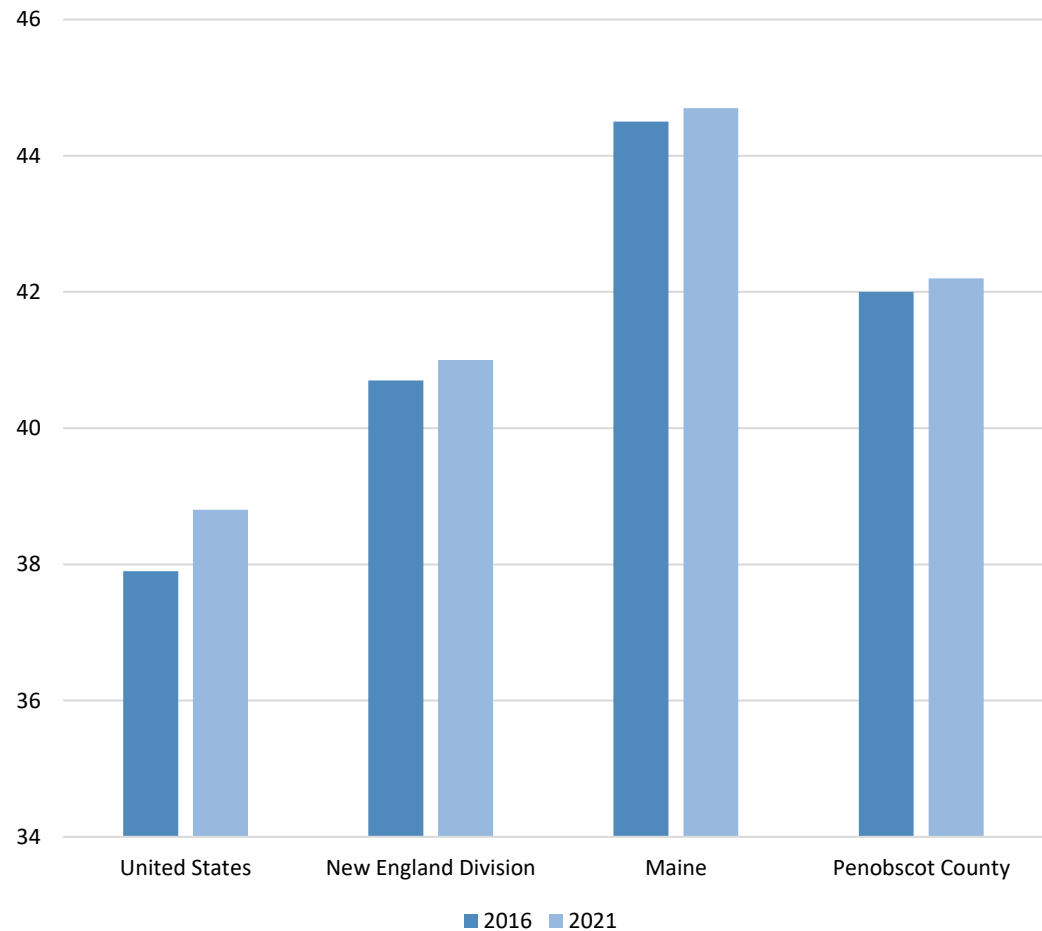
Projections show that population increase is driven by aging populations



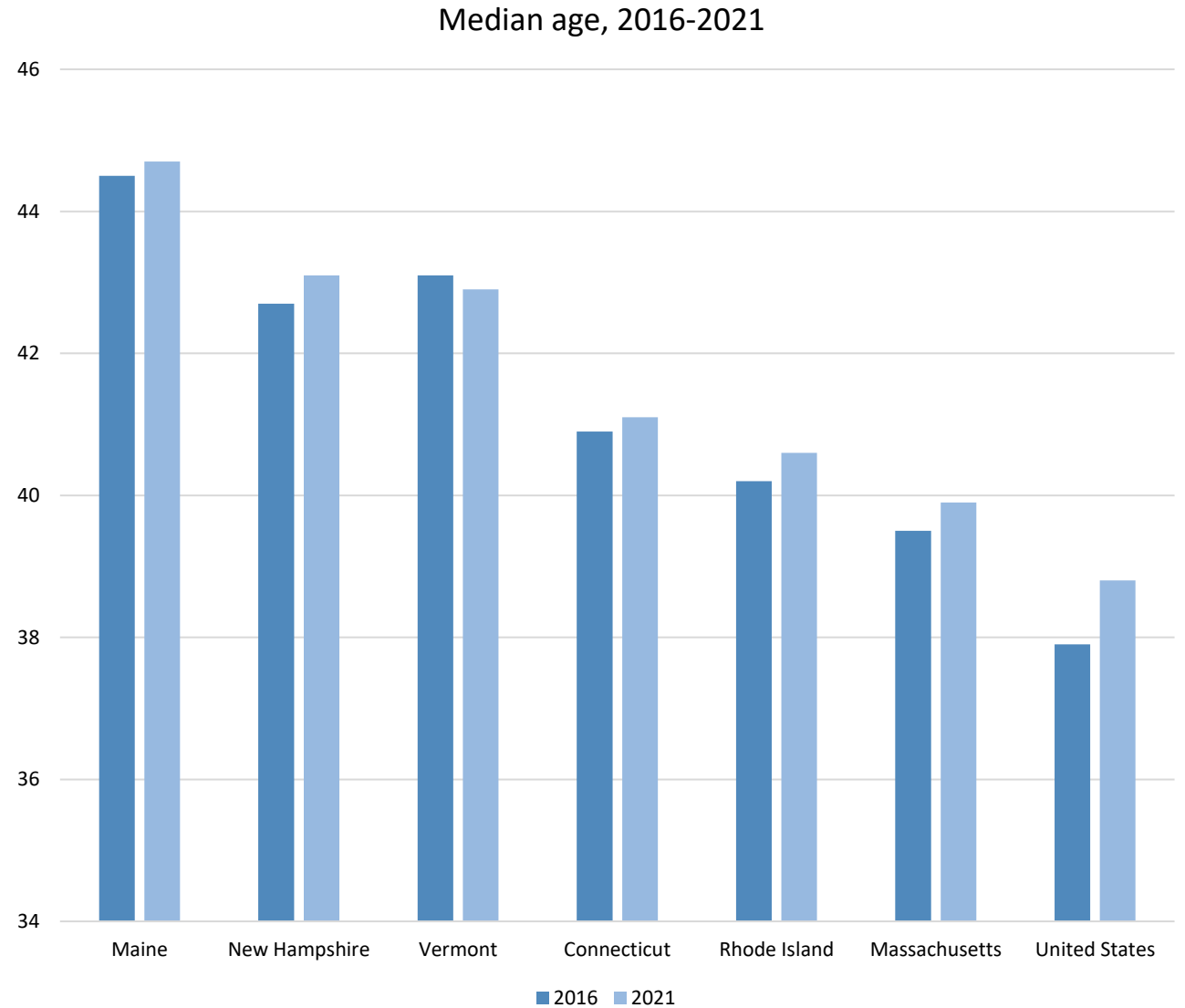
Maine is the oldest state by median age in the U.S.

BUT: Population Estimates show that Maine was the ONLY state to see its median age decline from 2016-2021

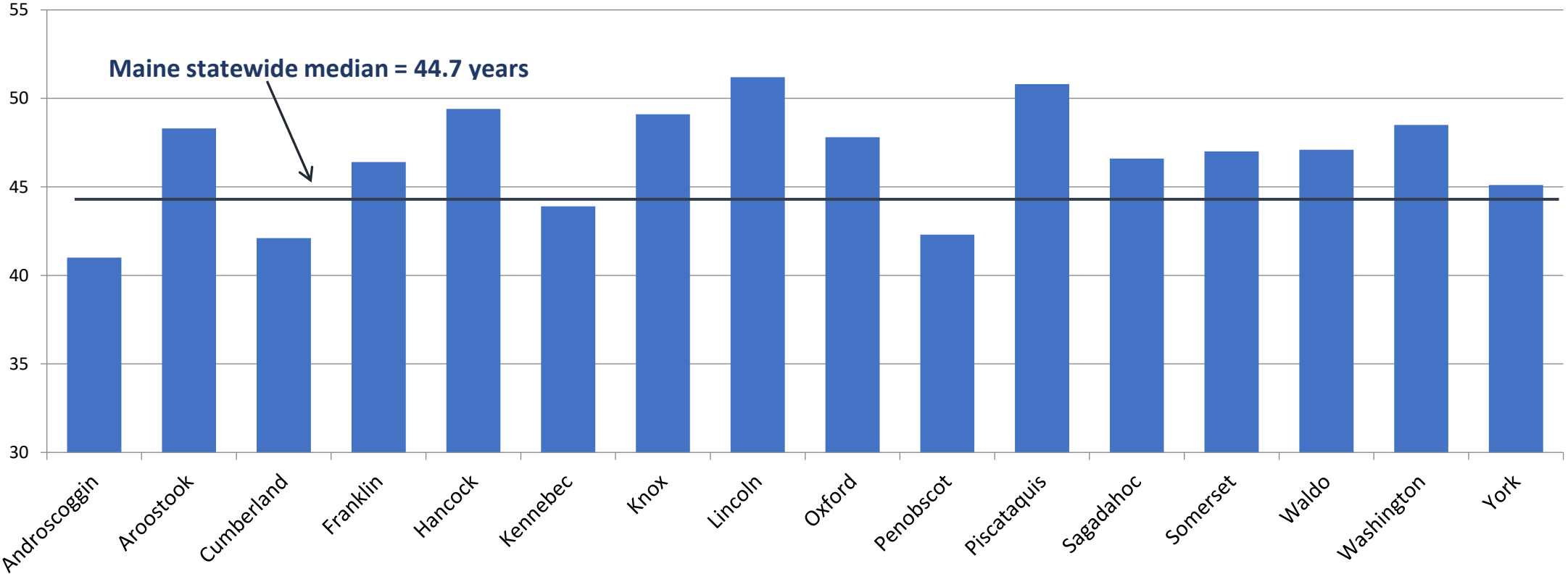
Median Age, 2016-2021



Northern New England is older than Southern New England

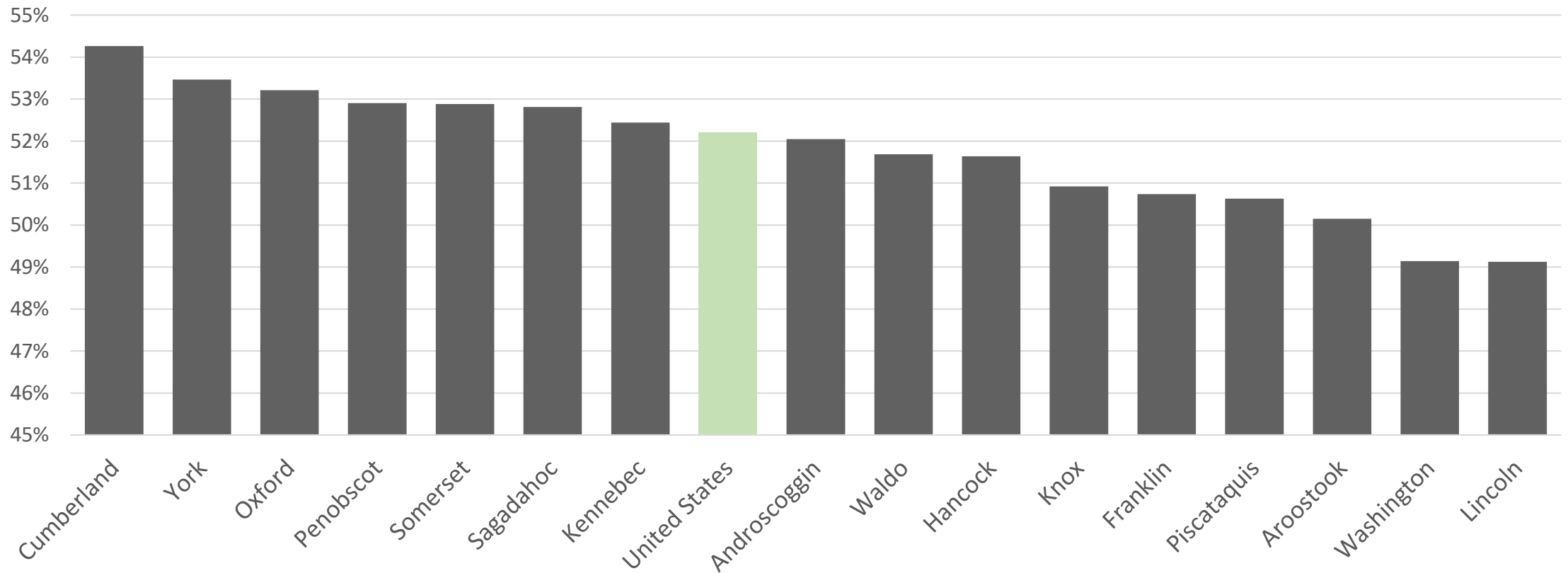


Median Age



52.6% of Maine's population is of prime working age

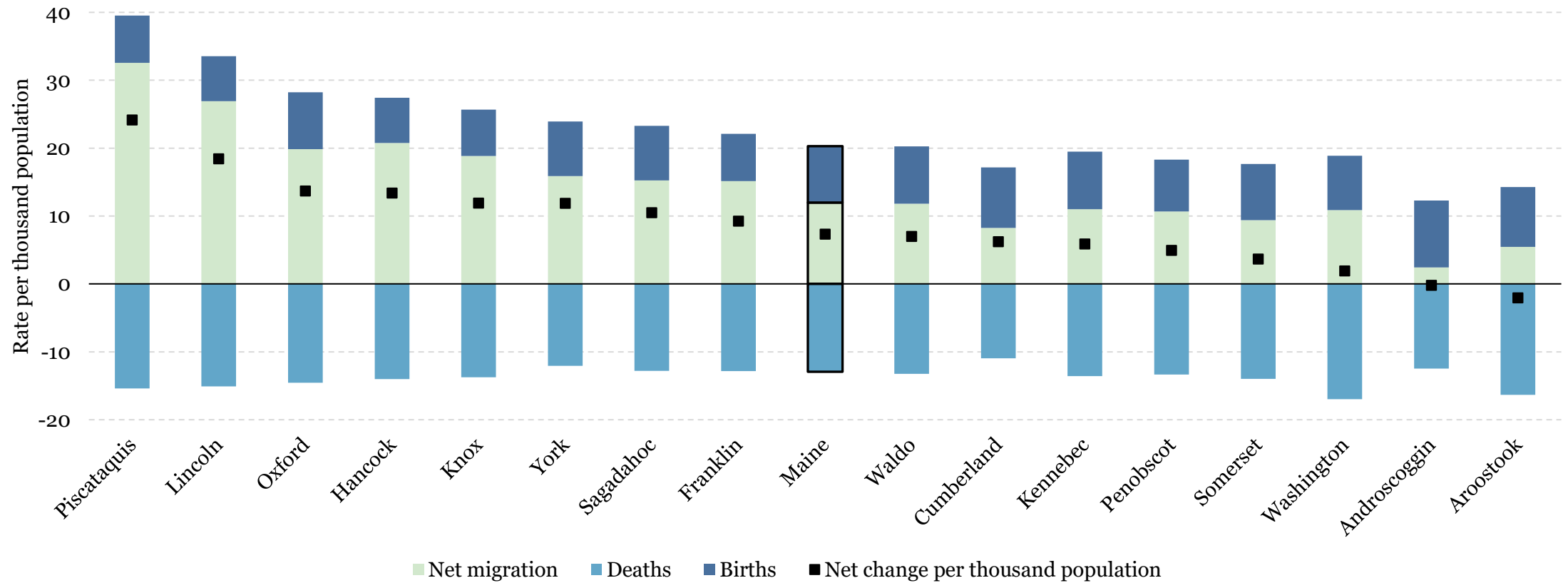
Percent of the population age 25 to 64 years



In-migration drove population growth in 2021

The state ranked 7th nationwide for net migration

Components of Population Change in Maine, 2021
Rate per thousand population



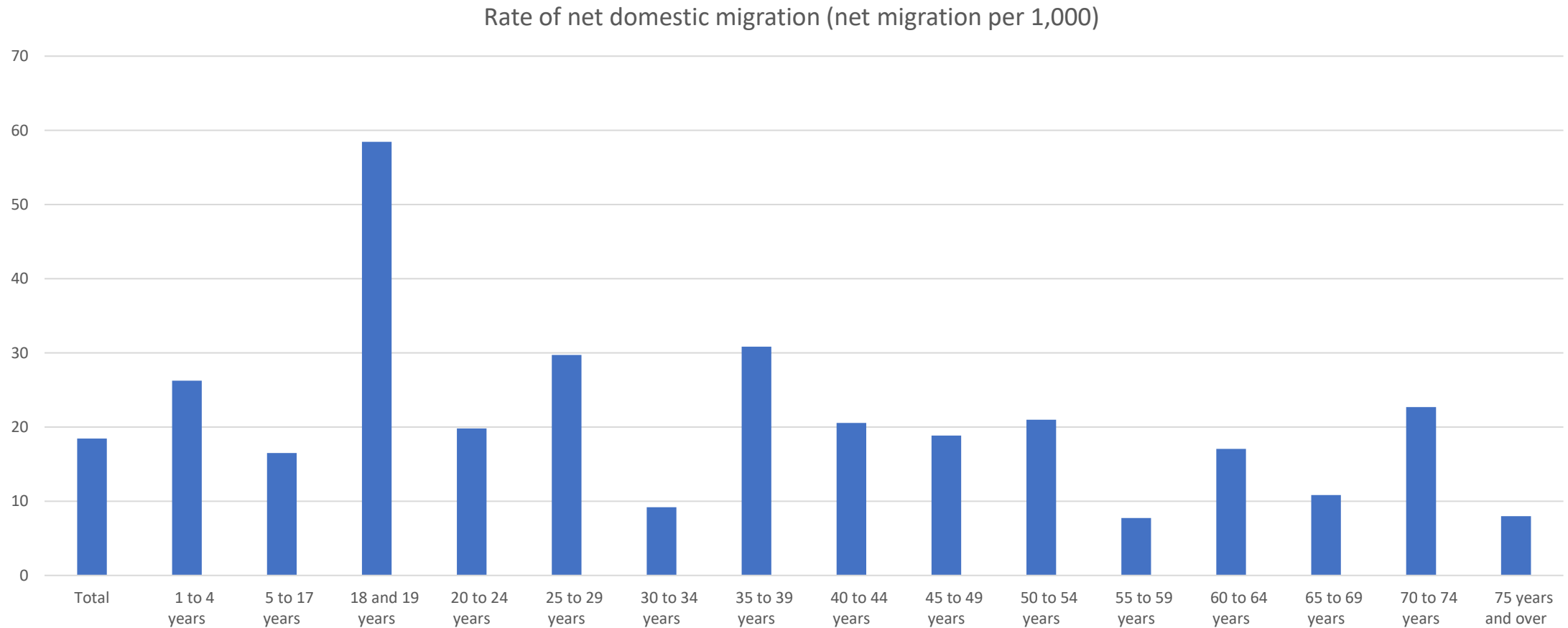
Top 10 out-migration states	
State	Net migration
Florida	-2,015
Kentucky	-1,657
Michigan	-1,222
Texas	-753
California	-691
New York	-645
Missouri	-577
Virginia	-549
Pennsylvania	-538
South Carolina	-527

Top 10 in-migration states	
State	Net Migration
Connecticut	2,349
North Carolina	1,516
New Hampshire	1,314
Massachusetts	883
Delaware	675
Maryland	574
Montana	476
Hawaii	372
Alaska	241
Ohio	195

State-to-state migration (2019)

Source: American Community Survey 1-year estimates

Net migration in 2021 was positive for all age groups



Questions about migration moving forward:

Who is moving to Maine?

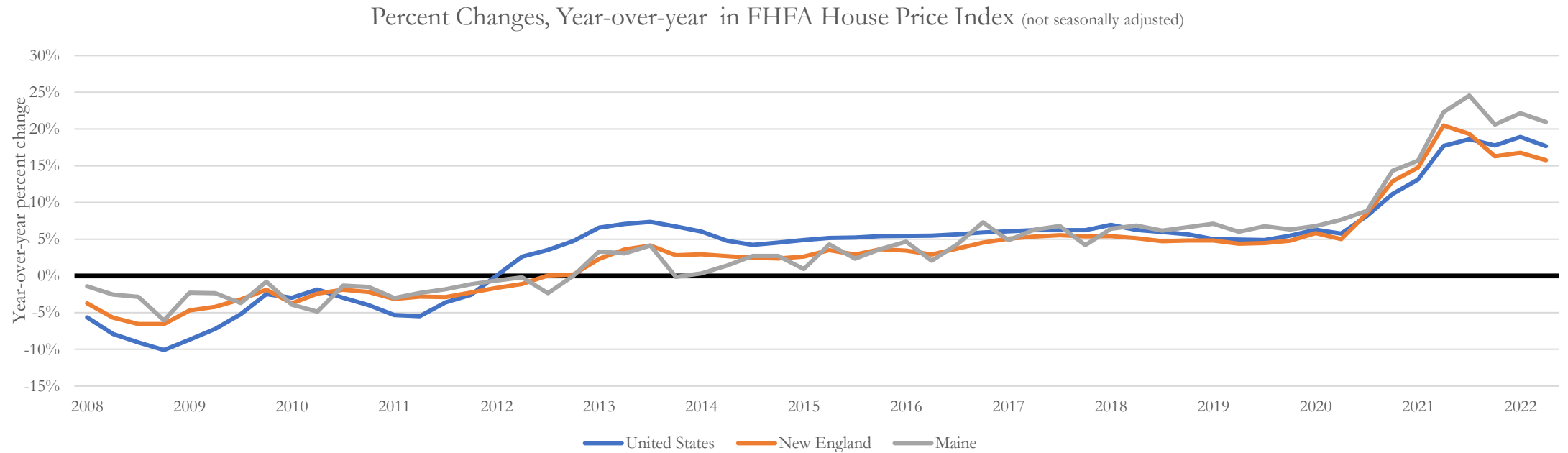
- Age, income, labor force status (are they working from home? For whom?)

Are they here permanently, seasonally, or just during the pandemic?

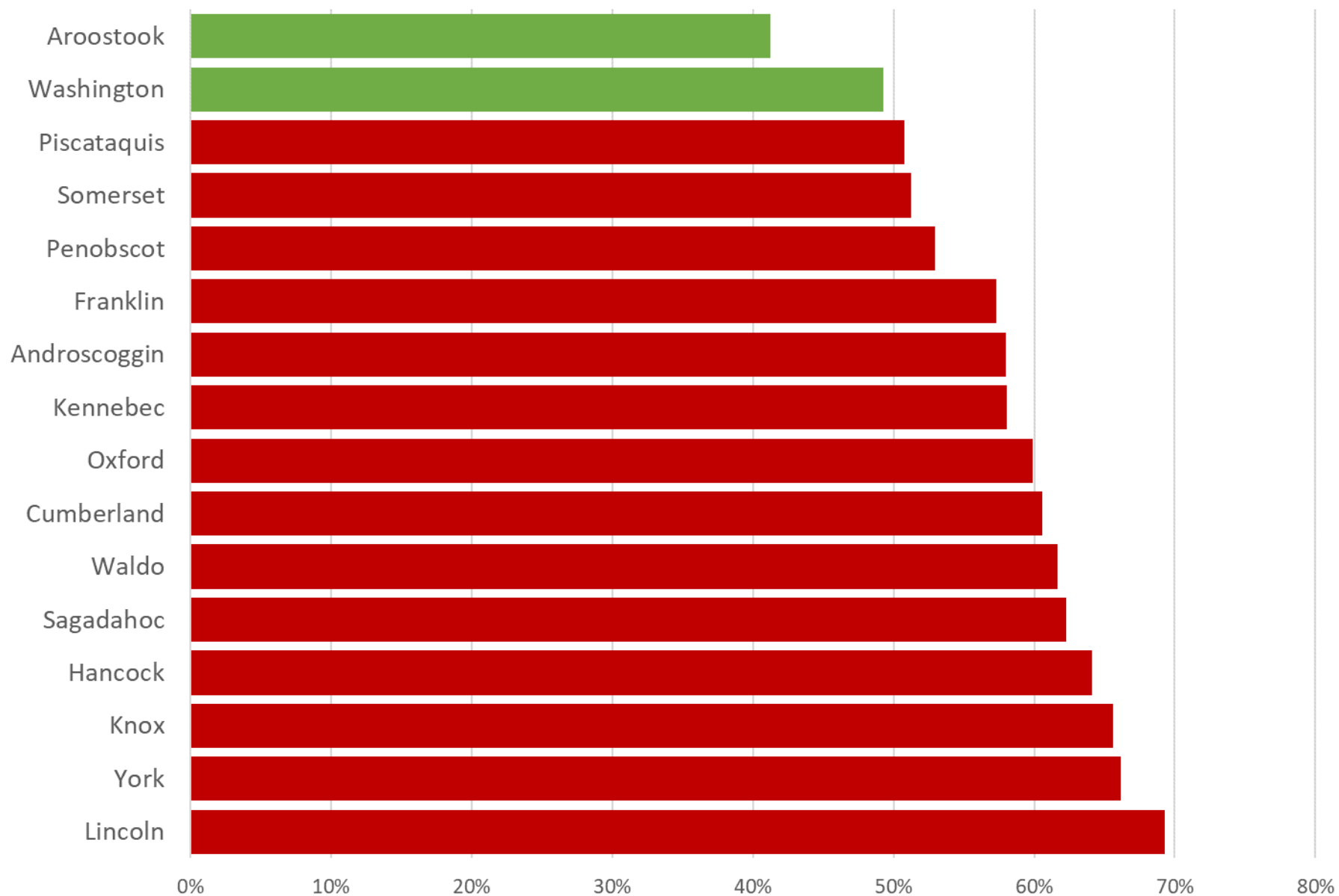
- How long will the current trend of in-migration continue?

How will Maine's housing market play a role in future growth?

Housing affordability and availability present major challenges to future growth

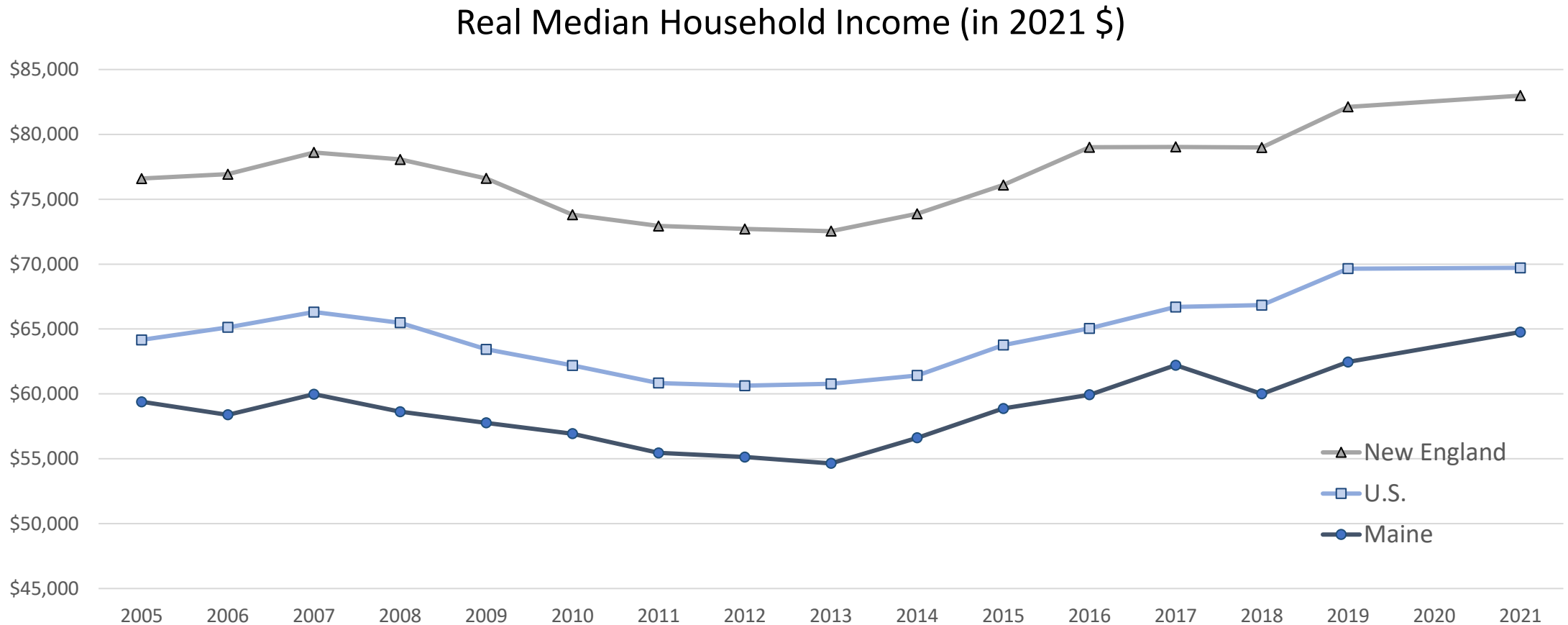


Percent of Households Unable to Afford Median Home, 2021

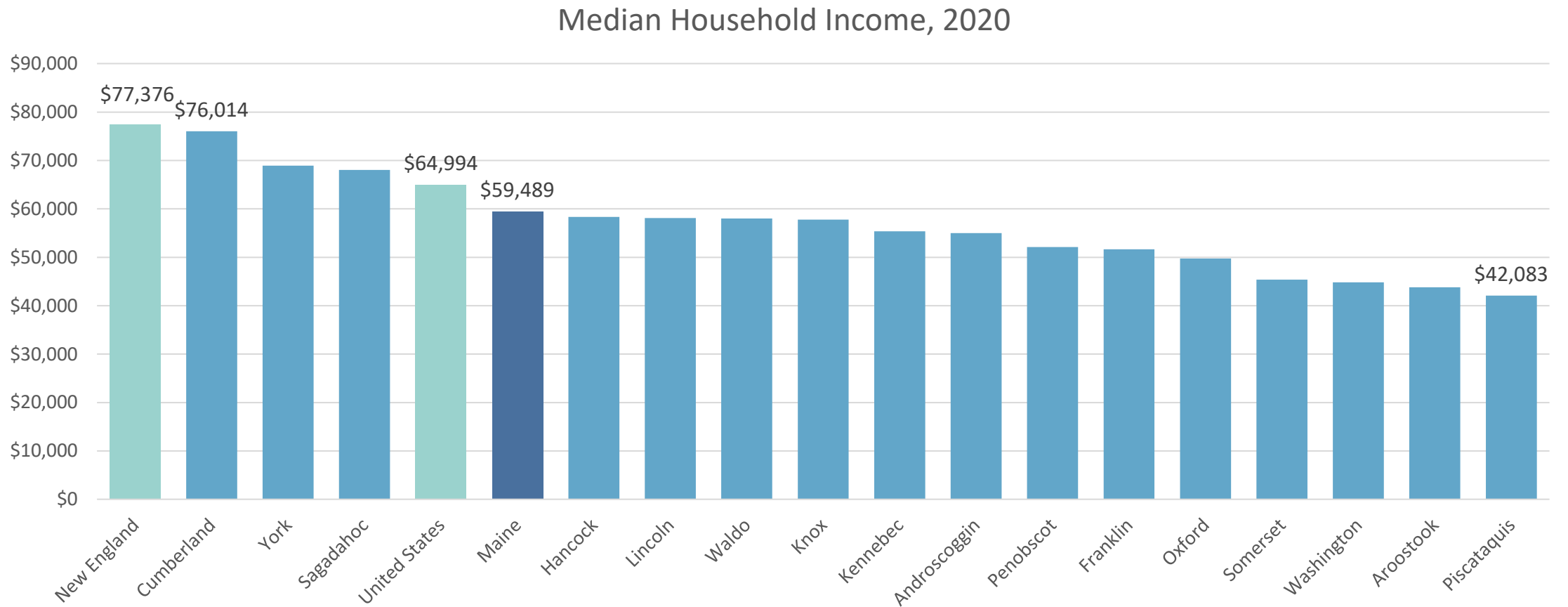


Maine lags in income, but is improving

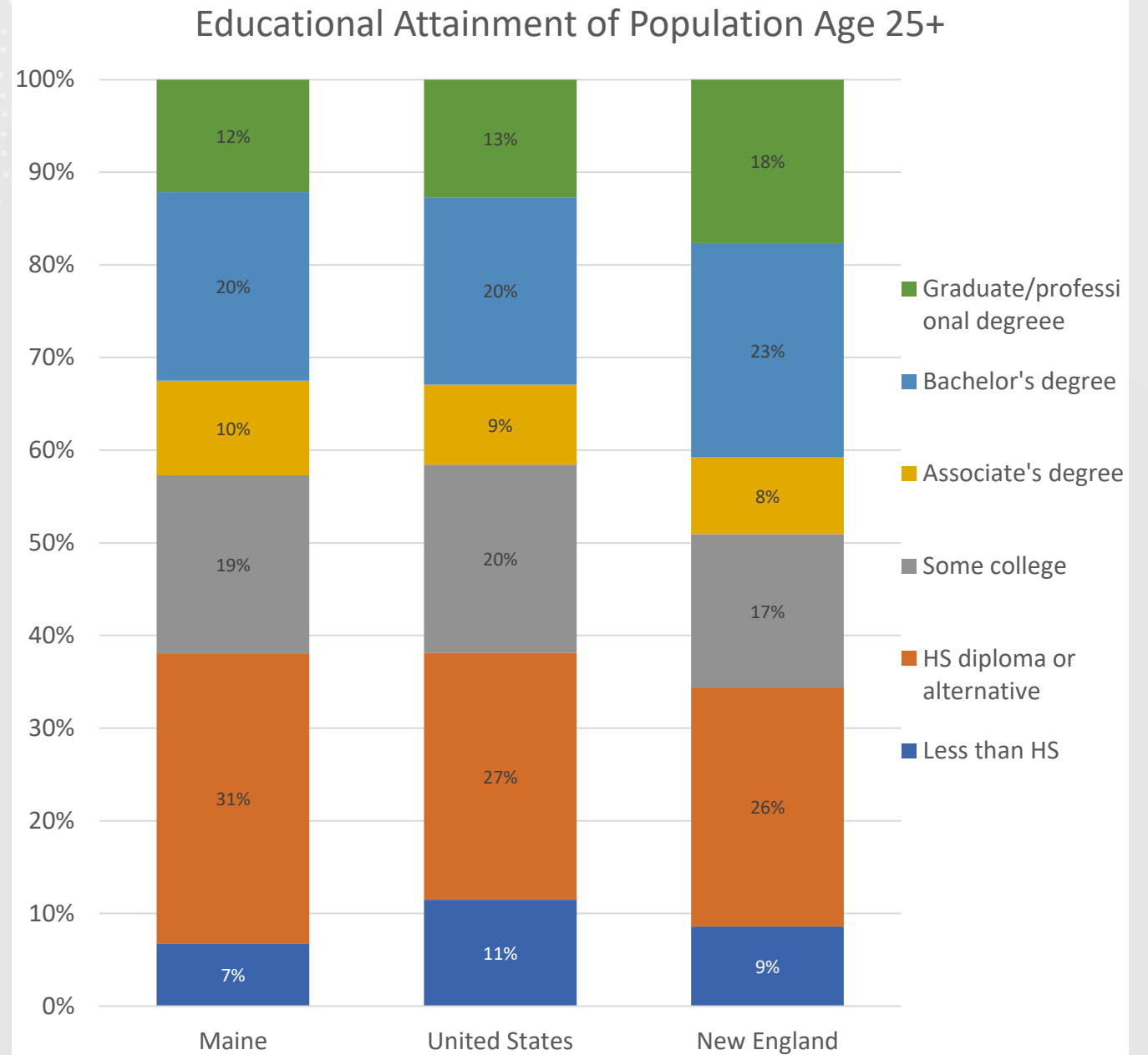
Maine's median income grew 3.7% from 2019-2021, the fifth-highest statistically significant increase among the 50 states and D.C.



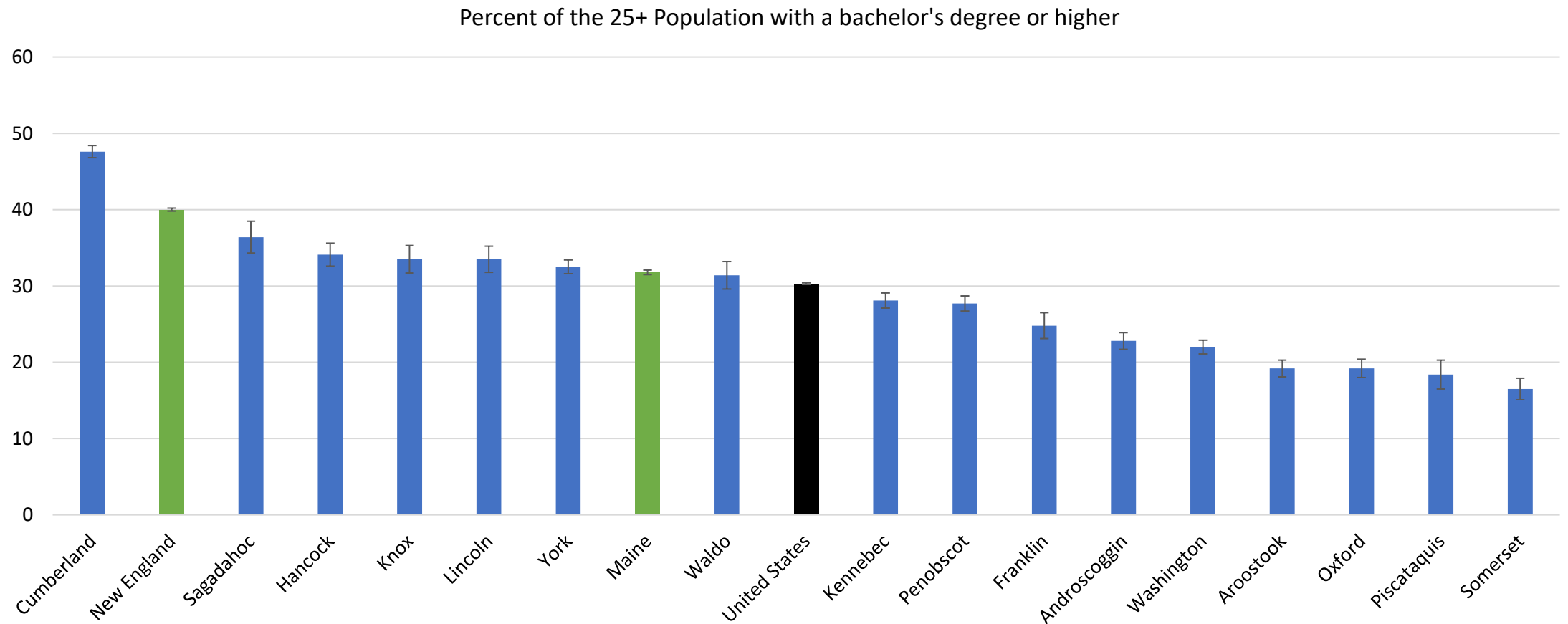
Southern Counties have the highest median incomes among Maine counties



Educational attainment



Levels of higher education vary drastically among counties



Questions?

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Appendix I: There are several official sources for population statistics!

Source	Frequency	Method	Geography available	Comparability	Best used when	Summary
Decennial Census	Every ten years, in years ending with 0	Complete count of population	All geography levels for total population; variable for more detailed demographic statistics	Data can be compared across geographies and across years	Precision is more important than having up-to-date data; the Decennial count was recent	Decennial Census data is the most accurate and precise population data for all levels of geography but is limited as it is only released every 10 years.
Population Estimates	Annual	Estimation based on decennial population count and births, deaths, and migration	State and county for total population, components of change and characteristics; total population only at town level	Data can be compared across geographies and longitudinally within the same decade; to compare to a previous decade, use intercensal population estimates	Having up-to-date data is more important than precision; analyzing geographic areas (i.e. states, counties and towns)	Population Estimates are the most accurate source of up-to-date population statistics at the national, state, county, and town level. However, only total population is available at the town level.
American Community Survey	Annual	Estimated using a survey answered by a sample of the population	1-year: geographic areas with at least 65,000 in population; 5-year: all geographic areas	Data can be compared across geographies; 5-year estimates can only be compared to non-overlapping years. For example, 2015-2019 ACS estimates can only be compared to 2010-2014 estimates or earlier.	Analyzing demographic characteristics of sub-county geographies; Demographic detail and precision are more important than having up-to-date data	American Community Survey 5-year estimates are the best source of population data for small geographies, particularly when details such as race and ethnicity or age and sex are needed at the town level or lower.
State Economist Population Projections	Every two years, typically in even years	Estimation using cohort-component method (advancing historical population counts using migration rates, birth rates, and death rates)	State and county for total population and population by 5-year age group and sex; total population for towns	Data can be compared across geographies and across years within the same projection; however, current projections should not be compared to past projections.	Projections for future population counts are needed for Maine at the state, county, or town level	State Economist population projections are produced every two years and provide projections for future population counts within Maine.

- Use this guide to help determine which source for population statistics to use in your research!
- [Office of the State Economist - Population Guide](#)



Sources for data about Maine's Economy

- Socioeconomics: data.census.gov
- Population projections:
maine.gov/dafs/economist/demographic-projections
- Labor market: Bureau of Labor statistics, or
maine.gov/labor/cwri/
- State Economist dashboards:
maine.gov/dafs/economist/dashboard