

# Maine Economic Indicators

April 2026



**Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services**  
**Office of the State Economist**

Amanda Rector, State Economist

Denise St. Peter, Economic Analyst

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***Due to the federal government shutdown from October 1 to November 12, normal federal data collection and release schedules were interrupted, affecting the availability of federal statistics that inform this report. As of late April 2026, most federal data is now being released on a typical timeline. State employment data is still running a few weeks behind, with monthly data for March expected on May 6. This report contains the most current data available at the time of writing.***

Maine Economic Indicators is a monthly report assembled by the Office of the State Economist that provides a synopsis of current economic trends and indicators for the state in comparison to New England and the United States. The intent of this report is to provide the public with a single document containing data aggregated from different sources typically used to track current economic and demographic conditions in the state.

The appendix provides comprehensive information related to the data presented herein. Data included in this report are assembled from various sources, subject to frequent revision, and provided in this report “as is” at the time of publication. Therefore, data presented in this report are subject to change over time.

# Contents

1	Snapshot.....	3
2	Annual Indicators .....	4
3	Quarterly and Monthly Indicators .....	5
3.1	Gross Domestic Product (GDP) .....	5
3.1.1	GDPNow from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta .....	5
3.2	Personal Income .....	6
3.3	Recession Indicators.....	7
3.3.1	Real-time Sahm Rule Recession Indicator .....	7
3.3.2	GDP-Based Recession Indicator Index .....	7
3.4	Labor Markets.....	8
3.4.1	Unemployment Rate <b>February 2026: 3.2%</b> .....	8
3.4.2	Labor Force Participation Rate <b>February 2026: 59.6%</b> .....	8
3.4.3	Total Nonfarm Payroll Job Estimates <b>February 2026: 661,300</b> .....	9
3.5	National inflation measures .....	10
3.5.1	Consumer Price Index vs. Personal Consumption Expenditures .....	10
3.5.2	Expenditure categories of the CPI .....	10
3.6	Energy .....	12
3.6.1	Gasoline .....	12
3.6.2	Brent Spot Prices.....	12
3.7	Housing.....	13
3.7.1	Sales .....	13
3.7.2	House Price Index .....	14
3.7.3	Inventory.....	14
3.8	Sentiment.....	15
3.9	Trade Outlook .....	16
3.9.1	Exports and trade partners .....	16
4	Appendix .....	18
4.1.1	Data Sources .....	18
5.	Glossary.....	19

# 1 Snapshot

Indicators in this section provide a summary of Maine’s current economic status. Figures for Maine are compared to New England and the United States. Sources are given in the appendix.

Reference Period		Maine	New England	United States
2025	Total population	1,414,874	15,431,980	341,784,857
2024-2025	Annual population percent change	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
2020-2025	Cumulative population percent change	3.8%	2.0%	3.1%
2024	Average earnings per job	\$67,720	\$88,260	\$78,096
2023-2024	Average earnings per job percent change	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%
Feb. 2026	Unemployment rate	3.2%	4.4%	4.4%
Feb. 2026	Total private nonfarm employment	558,500	6,584,400	135,134,000
Feb. 2026	Labor Force	708,300	8,262,700	170,483,000
Feb. 2026	Labor Force Participation Rate	59.6%	N/A	61.9%

## Annualized Percent Change from the previous quarter and Year-Over-Year Percent Change

Real GDP	2025:Q1	2025:Q2	2025:Q3	2025:Q4	2024:Q4-2025:Q4
Maine	-4.6	2.4	3.8	0.0	0.3
New England	2.0	3.9	4.2	0.9	2.7
United States	-0.6	3.8	4.4	0.5	2.0
Total Personal Income	2025:Q1	2025:Q2	2025:Q3	2025:Q4	2024:Q4-2025:Q4
Maine	4.8	7.0	1.5	2.9	4.0
New England	6.7	4.6	3.8	3.6	4.7
United States	6.4	4.2	4.4	3.4	4.6
Per Capita Personal Income	2025:Q1	2025:Q2	2025:Q3	2025:Q4	2024:Q4-2025:Q4
Maine	4.4	6.6	1.1	2.6	3.6
New England	6.4	4.4	3.5	3.5	4.5
United States	5.9	3.8	3.9	3.0	4.2
Wages & Salaries	2025:Q1	2025:Q2	2025:Q3	2025:Q4	2024:Q4-2025:Q4
Maine	0.7	5.3	3.2	4.4	3.4
New England	6.3	1.8	6.0	5.7	4.9
United States	5.2	2.2	6.0	4.8	4.6

## 2 Annual Indicators

Indicators summarized below are updated annually on various release dates and provide a general summary of Maine’s demographic and economic status.

Reference Period		Maine	New England	United States
2025	Total population	1,414,874	15,431,980	341,784,857
2024-2025	Annual population percent change	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
2020-2025	Cumulative population percent change	3.8%	2.0%	3.1%
2025	Births	11,783	141,449	3,620,461
2025	Deaths	16,802	140,006	3,101,603
2025	Net migration	11,446	43,161	1,262,202
2024-2025	Annual rate of total net migration, per thousand (Maine ranks 7 <sup>th</sup> in the U.S.)	8.1	2.8	3.7
2024	Median age, years (American Community Survey)	44.9	41.3	39.2
2024	Associate degree: percent of population age 25 and above	10.2%	7.9%	8.8%
2024	Bachelor’s degree: percent of population age 25 and above	22.5%	24.5%	22.1%
2024	Graduate or professional degree: percent of population age 25 and above	14.6%	19.9%	14.7%
2024	Percent of population below poverty level	10.4%	10.1%	12.5%
2024	Median family income	\$99,546	\$122,149	\$101,265
2024	Median household income	\$76,442	\$96,257	\$81,604
2024	Per capita personal consumption expenditures	\$63,046	\$68,190	\$58,499
2024	Per capita disposable personal income	\$61,744	\$75,632	\$64,426

### 3 Quarterly and Monthly Indicators

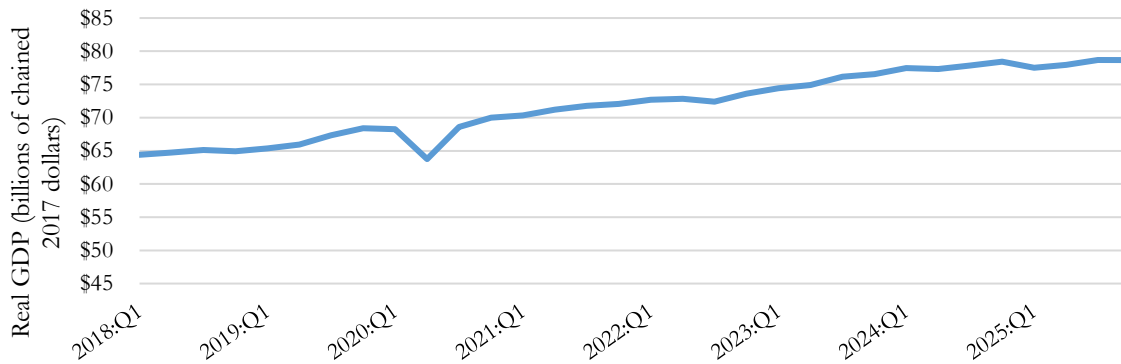
#### 3.1 Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Maine’s real GDP was little changed (0.0%) at an annualized rate in the fourth quarter of 2025, ranking 37<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. (growth of 0.5%) and fourth in New England (growth of 0.9%). New Hampshire (+1.6%) had the fastest growth in New England. The industry sectors that contributed most to Maine’s fourth quarter GDP were health care and social assistance (+0.56 percentage points); wholesale trade (+0.47 percentage points); and professional, scientific, and technical services (+0.32 percentage points). These gains were fully offset by declines in other industries including federal civilian government (-1.02 percentage points); nondurable goods manufacturing (-0.33 percentage points); and finance and insurance (-0.29 percentage points).

On April 30, the Bureau of Economic Analysis released the first estimate of *national* real GDP for the first quarter of 2026, estimating an increase of 2.0% at an annual rate.

2025:Q4	Maine	United States
Nominal GDP (Current dollars)	\$104.8 billion	\$31.4 trillion
Real GDP (Chained 2017 Dollars)	\$78.7 billion	\$24.1 trillion

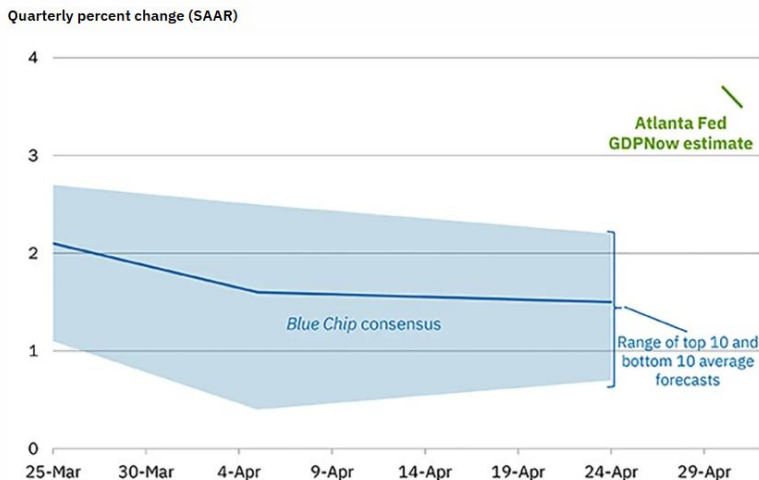
Real GDP (billions of chained 2017 dollars) - Maine



#### 3.1.1 GDPNow from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

GDPNow, which is reported by the Atlanta Fed, is “a running estimate of real GDP growth based on available data for the current quarter.” This model uses a similar methodology to the one used by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis in their official GDP estimates and is revised each time the monthly source data is updated. The nowcast estimate for 2026:Q2 as of May 1 is that U.S. real GDP will **increase by 3.5%** at an annual rate.

Evolution of Atlanta Fed GDPNow real GDP estimate for 2026:Q2

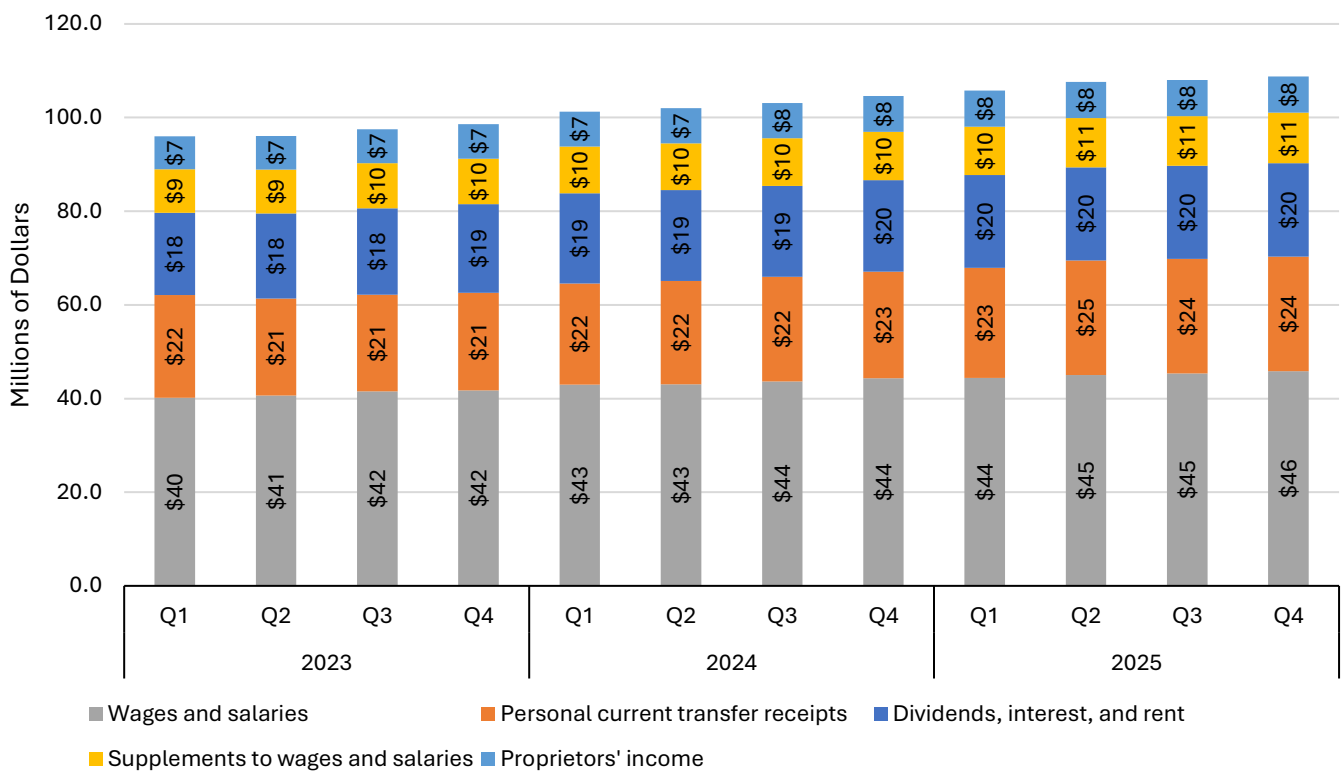


### 3.2 Personal Income

**Total personal income in Maine grew 2.9% at an annualized rate in the fourth quarter of 2025.** This growth rate was 29<sup>th</sup> highest in the U.S. and fifth in New England. Maine’s net earnings were up 4.3%, equivalent to New England growth and above U.S. growth of 4.0%. Maine’s transfer receipts were up 0.5%, equivalent to New England growth but below U.S. growth of 3.2%. Dividends, interest and rent grew 1.6% in Maine, very close to U.S. and New England growth (both up 1.7%).

By industry, health care and social assistance (+0.80 percentage points); professional, scientific, and technical services (+0.58 percentage points); and retail trade (+0.19 percentage points) contributed the most to change in personal income. These increases were partially offset by declines in other industries, including federal civilian government (-0.41 percentage points) and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (-0.12 percentage points).

Components of Personal Income (2023-2025)

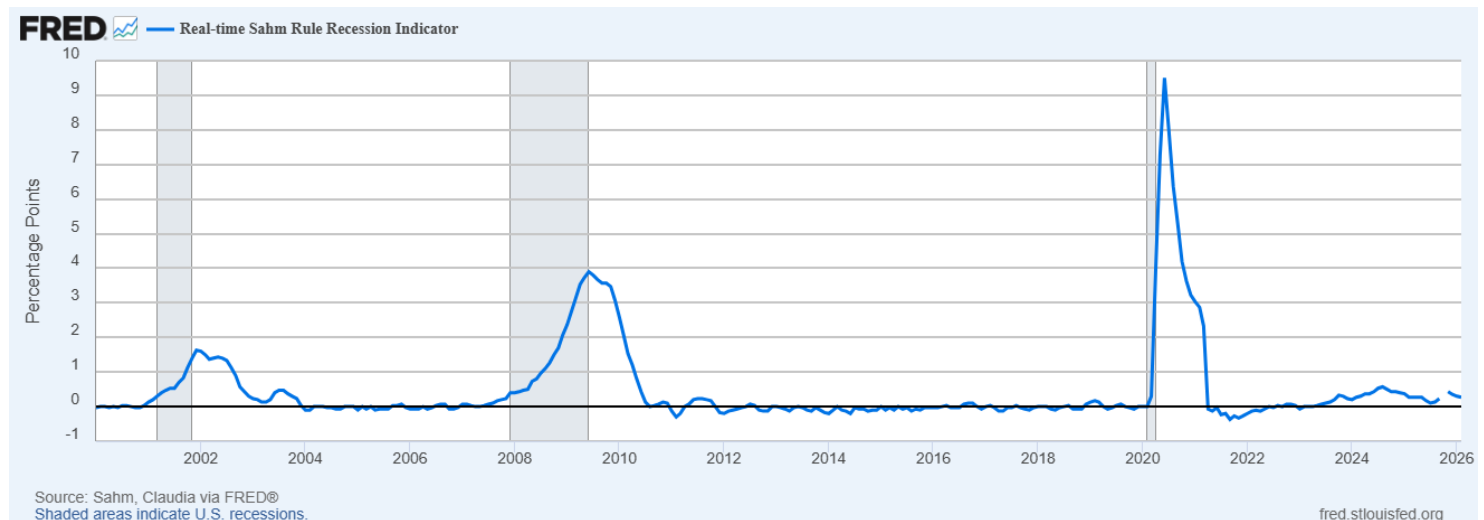


### 3.3 Recession Indicators

The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) is the primary source in the United States that declares when recessions begin and end and defines a recession as a significant decline in economic activity that is spread across the economy and lasts more than a few months. Other recession indicators are used to estimate business cycles in real time but are not official sources for when recessions begin and end.

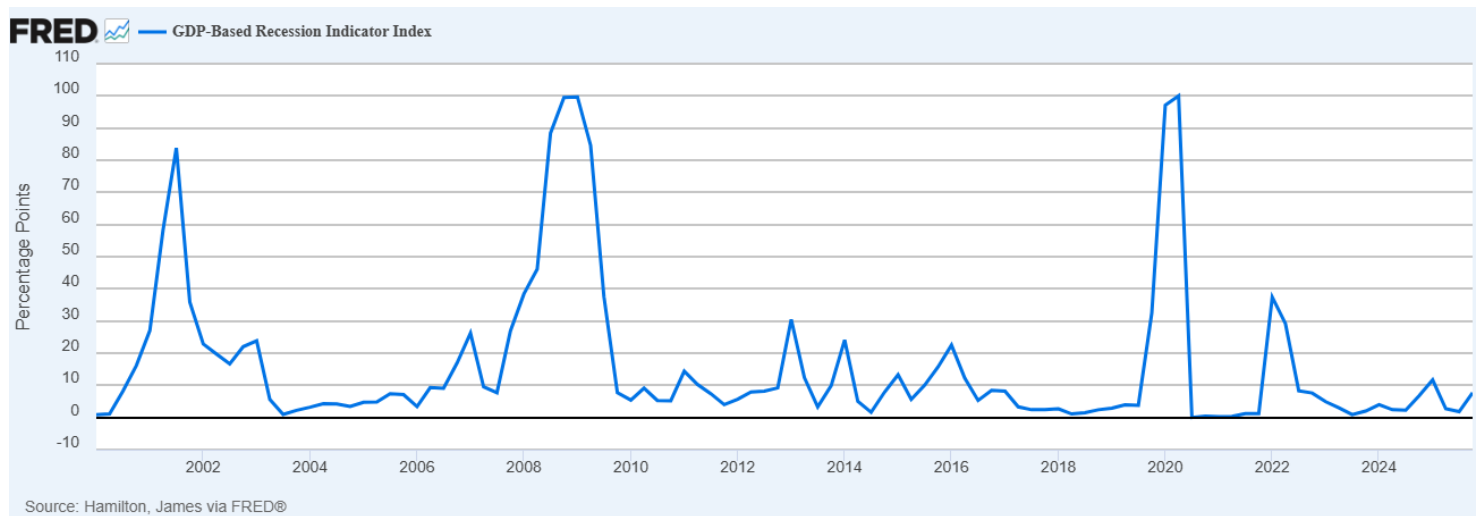
#### 3.3.1 Real-time Sahm Rule Recession Indicator

The Real-time Sahm Rule Recession Indicator<sup>1</sup> signals a recession when the 3-month moving average of the national unemployment rate (U3) rises by at least 0.5 percentage points relative to its low in the previous 12 months. In March 2026, this indicator showed that the three-month average of national U3 was **0.20 percentage points above its 12-month low**.



#### 3.3.2 GDP-Based Recession Indicator Index

The GDP-Based Recession Indicator Index<sup>2</sup> is 7.7 percentage points (2025:Q4), up from 1.8 in the third quarter of 2025. The index ranges from 0 to 100, and values above 67 provide a historically reliable indicator that the economy is in recession. This index is calculated with a one quarter lag, which allows for extra insight and accounts for data revisions to make dependable inference. The index does not get revised once it is published.



<sup>1</sup> Created by Dr. Claudia Sahm, Federal Reserve Board of Governors

<sup>2</sup> Created by Dr. James Hamilton, University of California San Diego

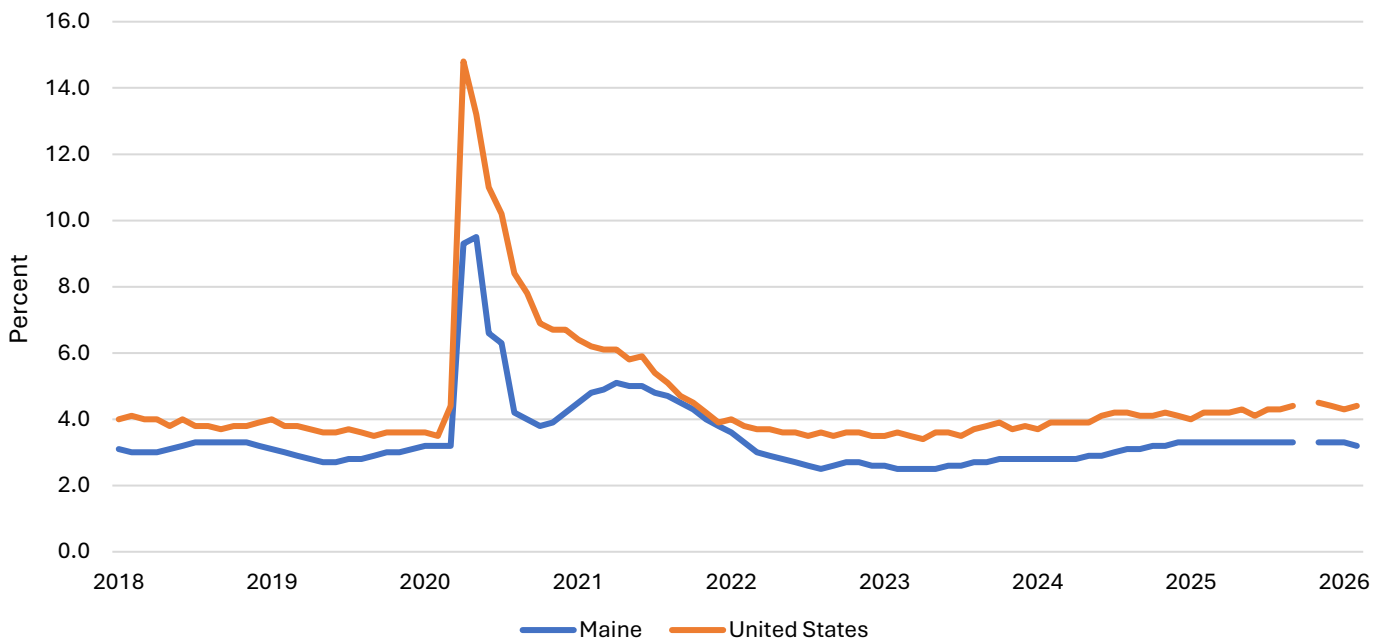
### 3.4 Labor Markets<sup>3</sup>

Each spring, monthly estimates of state employment data are revised for previous years. This year's [revisions](#) indicate that Maine's monthly unemployment rate was lower than previously estimated for the second half of 2024 and early 2025. It was slightly higher (0.1 percentage points on average) during the second half of 2025. Revised jobs estimates showed an average of 2,100 more total jobs during 2024 and an average of 4,600 more total jobs in 2025. Labor force participation rates were little changed from preliminary estimates. The revisions are reflected in the February employment data and charts below.

#### 3.4.1 Unemployment Rate February 2026: 3.2%

Maine's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.2% in February, little changed from 3.3% in January. Unemployment in Maine has now been below 4% for a record 50 months, exceeding the previous record of 49 months that ended in the spring of 2020. Maine's unemployment rate has been trending below the U.S. unemployment rate since early 2022 and was well below the New England rate of 4.4% in February.<sup>4</sup>

Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted)



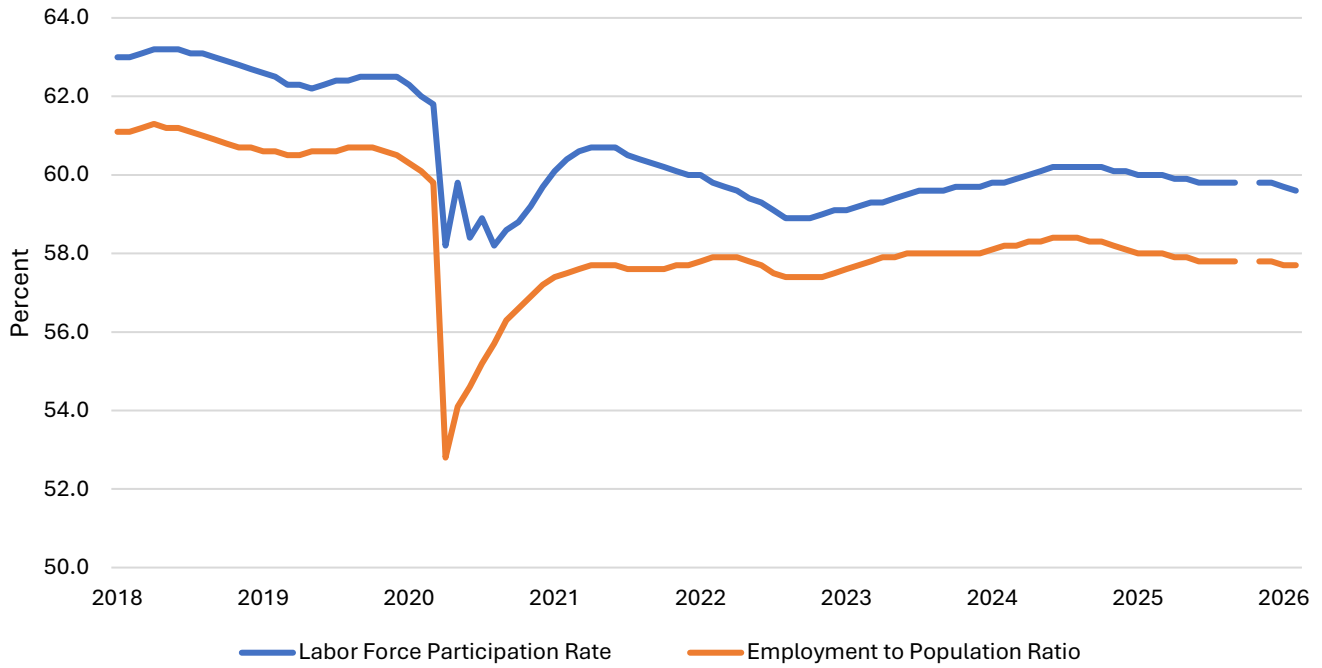
#### 3.4.2 Labor Force Participation Rate February 2026: 59.6%

Labor force participation (LFP) was 59.6% in February. The employment to population ratio (EPOP), an alternative measure of labor market activity which measures the total number of employed working-age adults divided by the total working-age population, was 57.7% in February. Both measures were little changed from January (each down by 0.1 percentage points).

<sup>3</sup> The data for unemployment rates and labor force are derived from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program and data for nonfarm payroll jobs are derived from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The numbers presented below are estimates which vary month to month in either direction and are subject to substantial revision. The Maine Department of Labor cautions users to analyze general trends over several months as opposed to making conclusions based on changes month to month.

<sup>4</sup> The Current Population Survey of households was not conducted during the federal government shutdown that began in October 2025. Unemployment and labor force estimates for October 2025 are not available. The missing October data results in a series break in the unemployment rate and labor force participation charts.

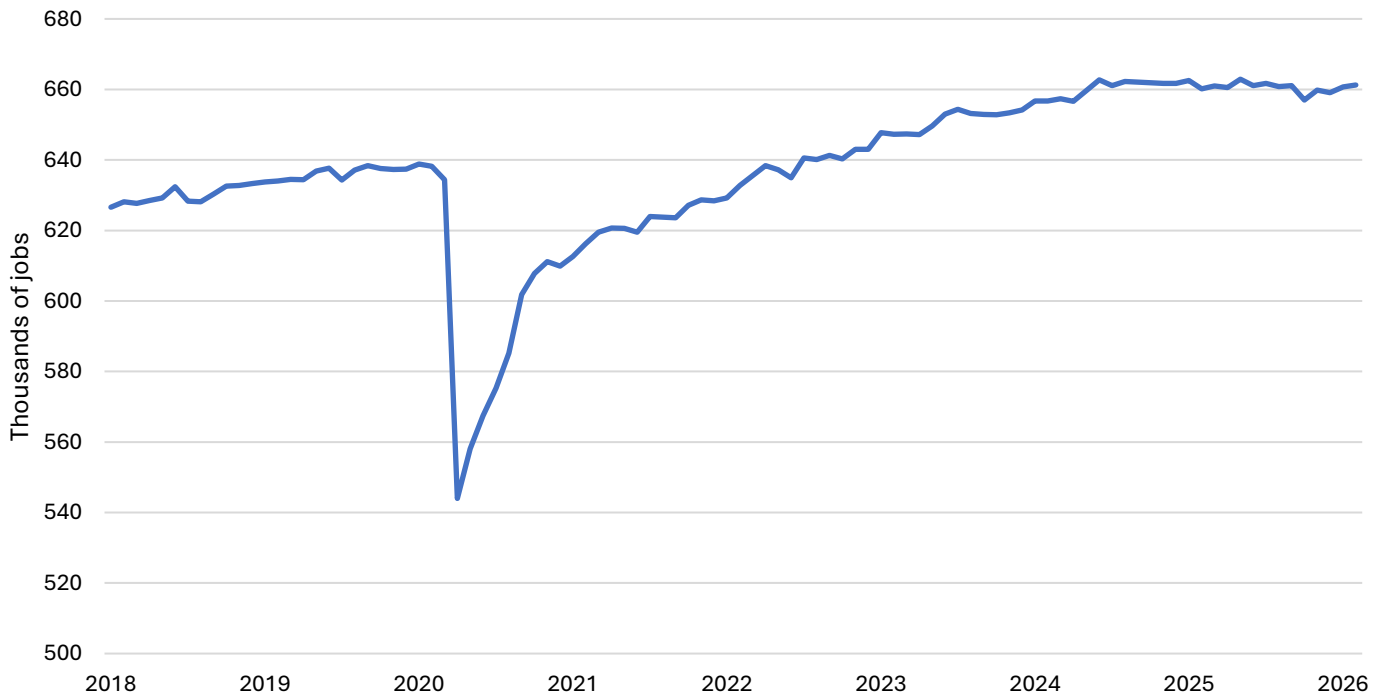
### Labor Force Participation & Employment-Population Ratio (Maine)



#### 3.4.3 Total Nonfarm Payroll Job Estimates **February 2026: 661,300**

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs were up 600 from January. On an annual basis, nonfarm jobs are up by 1,100 compared to February 2025. Over the past year, the largest gains were in leisure and hospitality and local government and the largest declines were in professional and business services and federal government.

### Total Nonfarm Employment Maine (seasonally adjusted)



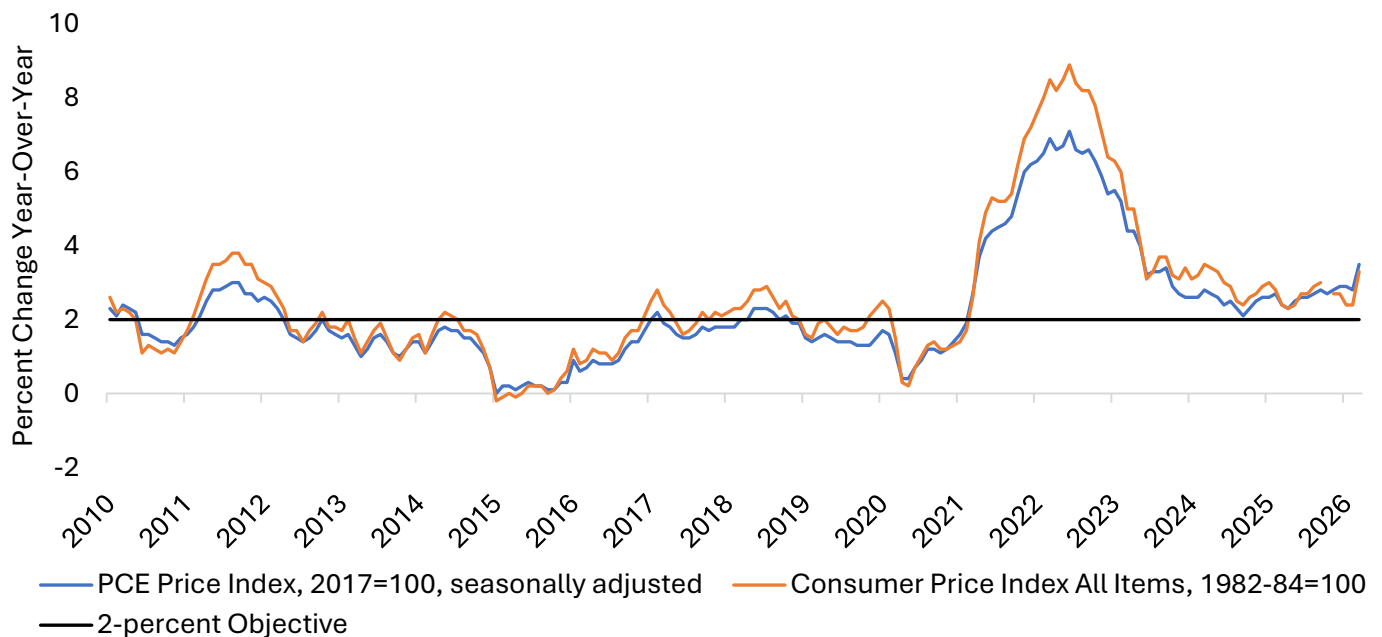
### 3.5 National inflation measures

#### 3.5.1 Consumer Price Index vs. Personal Consumption Expenditures

There are two measures of inflation in the United States. The Consumer Price Index is released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is based on surveys of urban consumers, while Personal Consumption Expenditures price index is calculated by the Bureau of Economic Analysis and based on surveys of what businesses are selling. Both are used officially for various federal purposes, although the Federal Reserve focuses on PCE in monetary policy decisions.

In March the PCE price index grew by 3.5% year-over-year (up from a 2.8% year-over-year change in February). On a monthly basis, it increased by 0.7%. The CPI all-items index grew by 3.3% in March before seasonal adjustment.<sup>5</sup> Inflation has remained above the 2% Federal Reserve target since March 2021.

Measures of inflation, Year-Over-Year Percent Change



#### 3.5.2 Expenditure categories of the CPI

The CPI for all urban consumers increased 3.3% year-over-year in March, up sharply from a 2.4% year-over-year increase in February. On a seasonally-adjusted monthly basis, the all-items index was up 0.9% from the month before, the largest monthly increase since June 2022.

The energy index was up 10.9% in March and is up 12.5% year-over-year. Gasoline (+21.2%) had the largest monthly increase since the beginning of the data series in 1967. Fuel oil (+30.7%) had the largest increase since February 2000. Gasoline alone accounted for nearly three quarters of the monthly increase in the all-items index.

The shelter index was up 0.3% for the month and is up 3.0% year-over-year. The food index was unchanged for the month and is up 2.7% year-over-year. The core index, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, increased 0.2% from the prior month and is up 2.6% year-over-year.

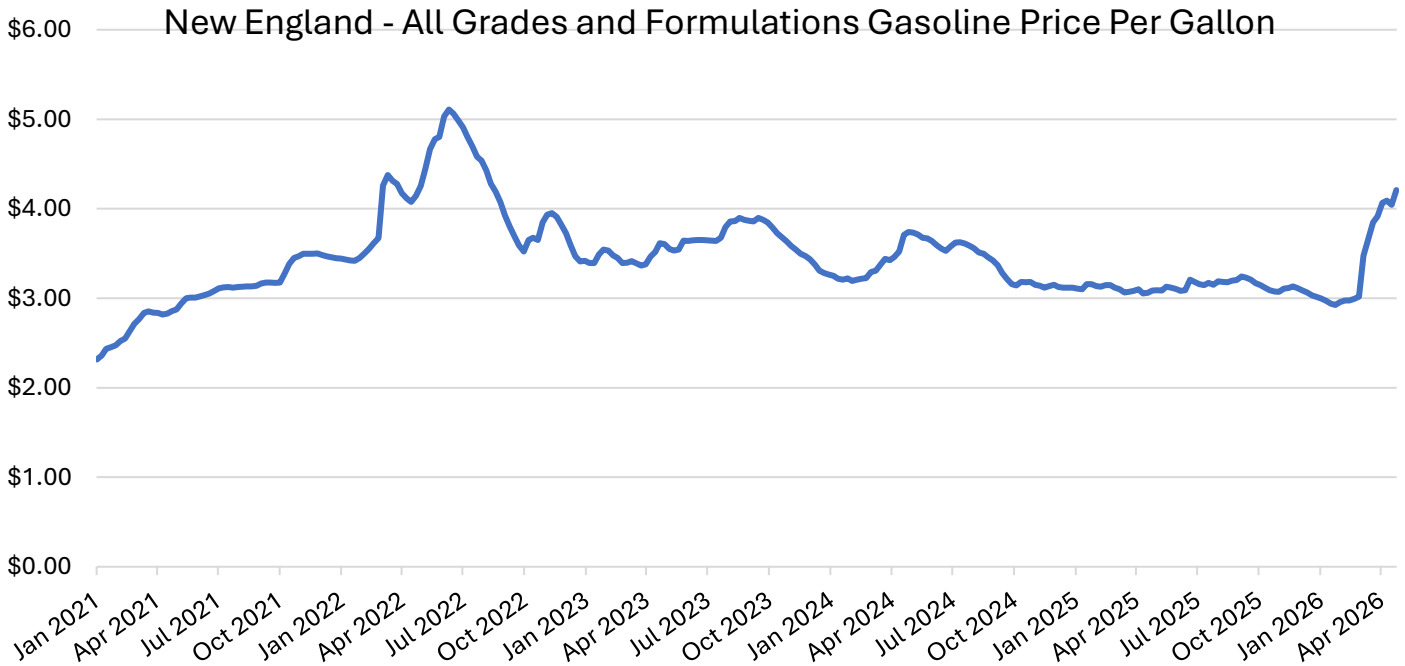
<sup>5</sup> Due to the federal government shutdown of October-November 2025, the Bureau of Labor Statistics was unable to conduct the October 2025 survey of prices. The missing October CPI data shows as a series break in the chart of inflation measures.

Table 1. Percent Change in Consumer Price Index by Expenditure Category	Year-Over-Year (not seasonally adjusted)		Month-Over-Month (seasonally adjusted)	
	Feb-26	Mar-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
<b>All items</b>	2.4	3.3	0.3	0.9
Food	3.1	2.7	0.4	0.0
Energy	0.5	12.5	0.6	10.9
<i>All items less food and energy</i>	2.5	2.6	0.2	0.2
Commodities (less food and energy)	1.0	1.2	0.1	0.1
Household furnishings and supplies	3.9	3.6	0.2	-0.2
Apparel	2.5	3.4	1.3	1.0
Transportation commodities (less motor fuel)	-0.9	-0.9	-0.1	-0.1
Medical care commodities	0.1	0.3	0.0	-1.0
Recreation commodities	2.5	3.3	0.4	0.5
Education and communication commodities	-6.3	-6.4	-3.0	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.6	1.7	0.1	0.3
Other goods	4.2	4.4	0.1	0.5
Services (less energy)	2.9	3.0	0.3	0.2
Shelter	3.0	3.0	0.2	0.3
Water and sewer and trash collection	4.4	4.7	0.7	0.5
Medical care services	4.1	3.7	0.6	0.0
Transportation services	2.2	4.1	0.2	0.6
Recreation services	2.1	1.6	-0.2	-0.4
Education and communication services	1.1	1.0	0.3	0.2
Other personal services	5.8	3.2	-0.2	-0.8

### 3.6 Energy

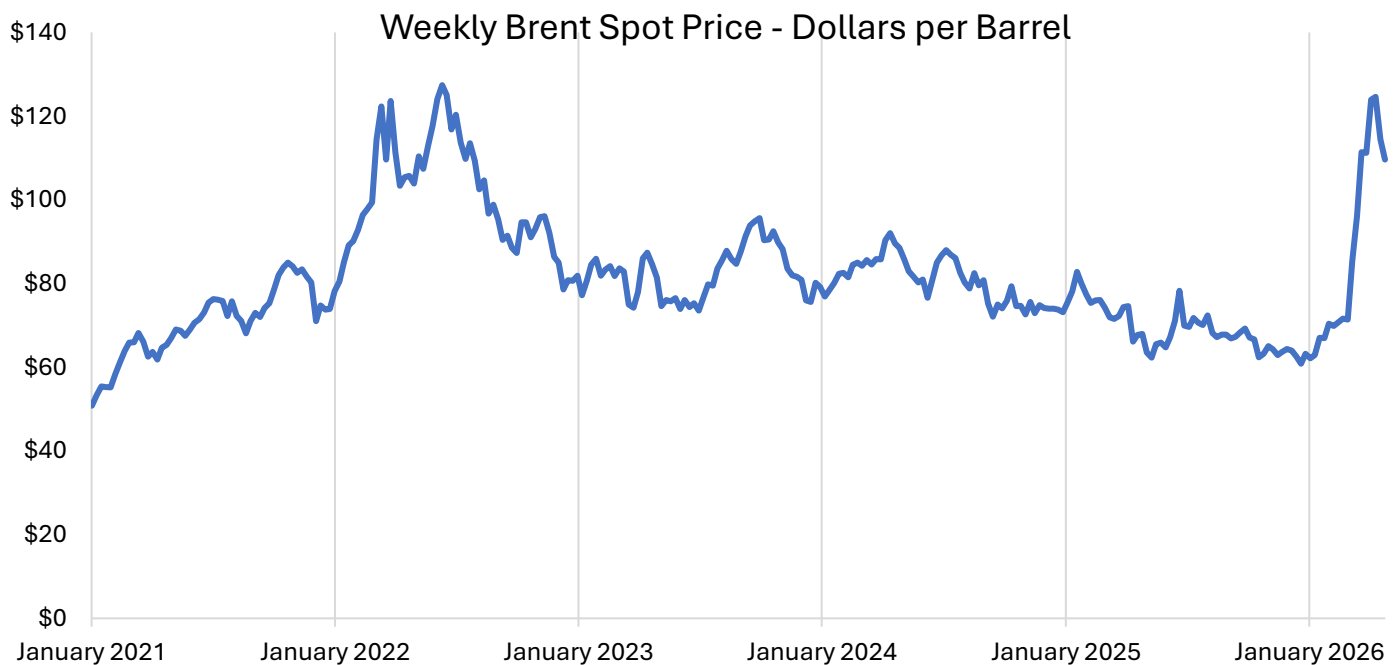
#### 3.6.1 Gasoline

The average price of a gallon of gasoline in New England was \$4.21 on April 27, \$0.29 higher than the previous month and up \$1.12 from the same week last year. The average price of gasoline for all weeks in the month of April was up \$0.52 from all weeks in March.



#### 3.6.2 Brent Spot Prices

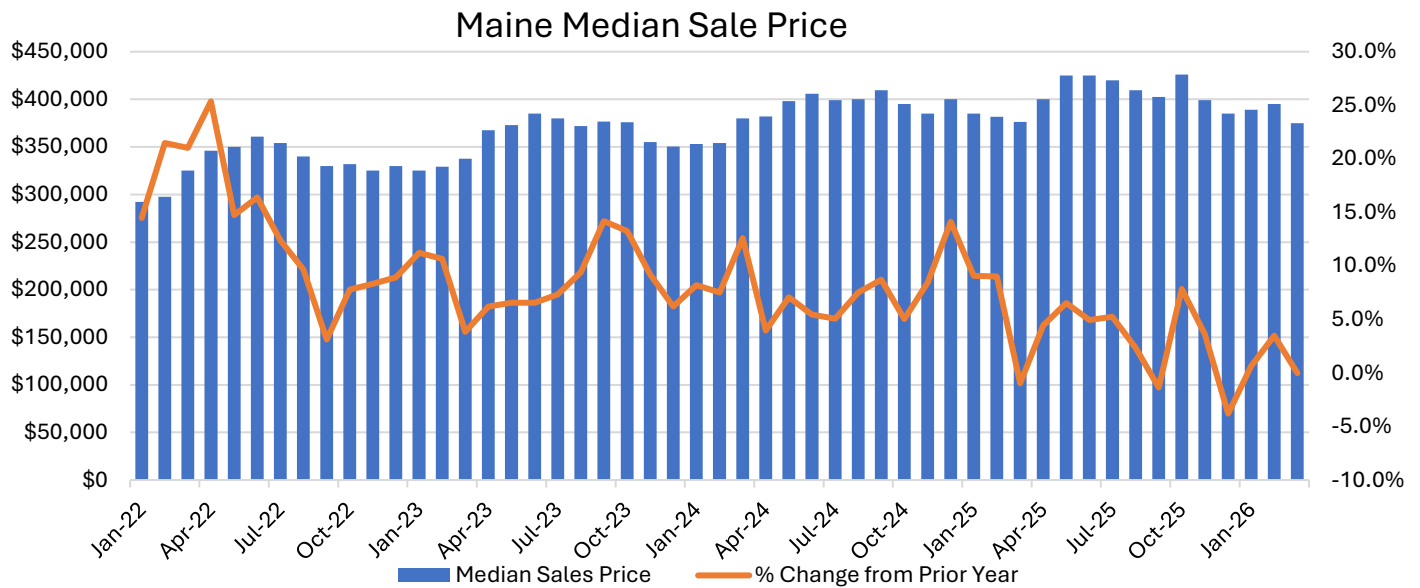
The weekly Brent spot price averaged \$118.15 for the month of April and was at \$109.62 for the week ending April 24, 2026. Oil prices increased sharply in March as global oil supply faced disruptions from conflict in the Middle East and prices hit \$124.61 during the week of April 10, the highest level since June 2022.



### 3.7 Housing

#### 3.7.1 Sales

The number of home sales in Maine in March was 851, unchanged from March 2025. The median sale price in Maine was \$375,000, down 5.1% from February but unchanged from March 2026.



In the past three months, all but four Maine counties had decreases in homes sold compared to a year ago. The median sales price increased in seven counties, decreased in seven, and had little change in two. Piscataquis saw the largest increase in its median sales price (+21.2%) and Franklin had the largest decrease (-14.2%).

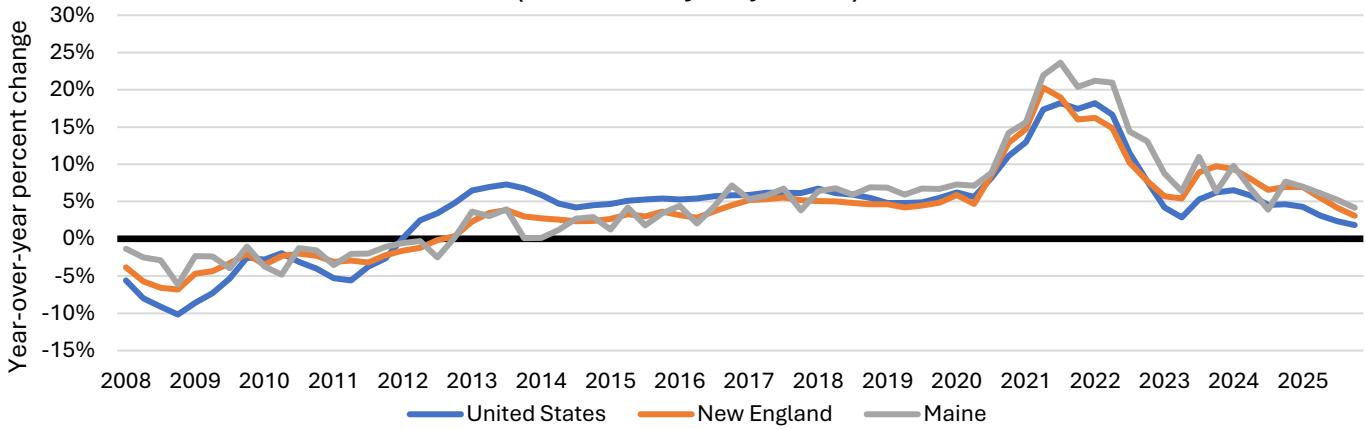
January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026 Home Sales				
Geography	No. of Units Sold	One Year Change (Units)	Median Sale Price	One Year Change (Price)
Androscoggin	149	-5.7%	\$325,000	-1.1%
Aroostook	108	-12.9%	\$150,000	5.2%
Cumberland	455	-2.8%	\$560,000	1.8%
Franklin	79	49.1%	\$279,000	-14.2%
Hancock	98	-19.7%	\$392,500	-7.6%
Kennebec	205	-6.8%	\$294,700	-1.8%
Knox	78	-17.0%	\$420,000	-1.8%
Lincoln	60	-30.2%	\$429,500	-1.3%
Oxford	149	30.7%	\$345,000	2.2%
Penobscot	256	-9.5%	\$277,500	0.9%
Piscataquis	48	-14.3%	\$247,000	21.2%
Sagadahoc	64	16.4%	\$403,500	0.9%
Somerset	85	1.2%	\$235,000	7.8%
Waldo	70	-21.3%	\$337,500	-3.6%
Washington	51	-30.1%	\$220,000	10.1%
York	379	-2.8%	\$500,000	1.5%
<b>Maine</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>	<b>\$384,250</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

### 3.7.2 House Price Index

In the fourth quarter of 2025, Maine’s year-over-year growth in the house price index (HPI)<sup>6</sup> was 4.1% (seasonally adjusted), 11<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation for year-over-year growth and first in New England. Maine’s year-over-year growth was above the U.S. (1.8%) and New England (3.1%). On a seasonally adjusted quarterly basis, Maine’s HPI increased 0.74% from the third quarter of 2025, similar to growth of 0.71% in New England and 0.75% in the U.S.

Reference Period		Maine	New England	United States
2024:Q4-2025:Q4	HPI percent change from previous year	4.1%	3.1%	1.8%

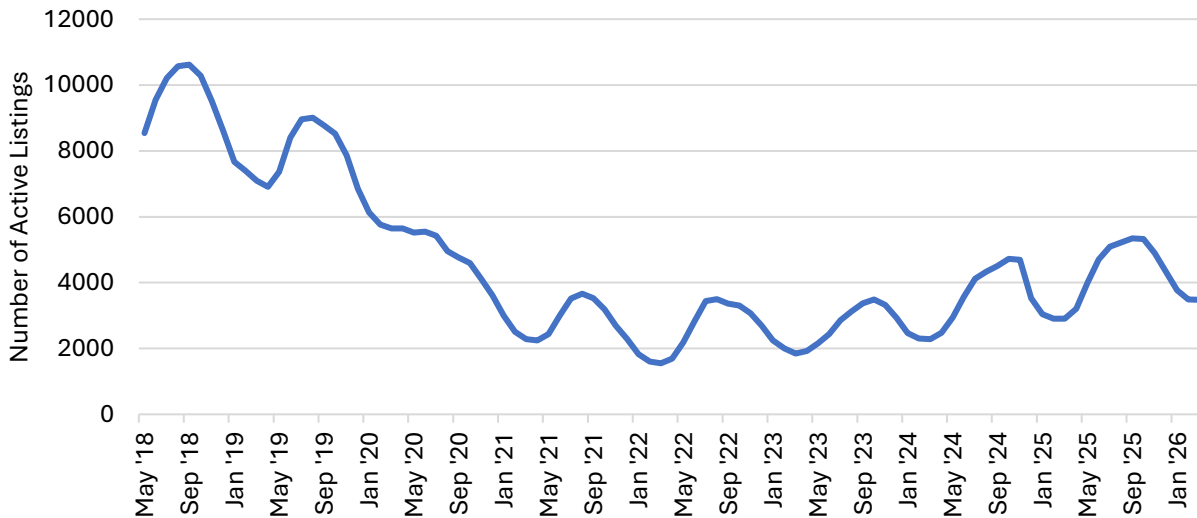
Percent Changes, Year-over-year in FHFA House Price Index (Seasonally Adjusted)



### 3.7.3 Inventory

There were 3,480 active listings of single-family and condo homes in Maine in March. Inventory has been increasing, but remains low compared to the pre-pandemic period. The number of active listings in March 2026 was up 20% from March 2025, but down 51% from March 2019. Since inventory levels have a defined seasonal pattern, it is most useful to look at changes year-over-year.

Housing Inventory: Active Listing Count in Maine (not seasonally adjusted)



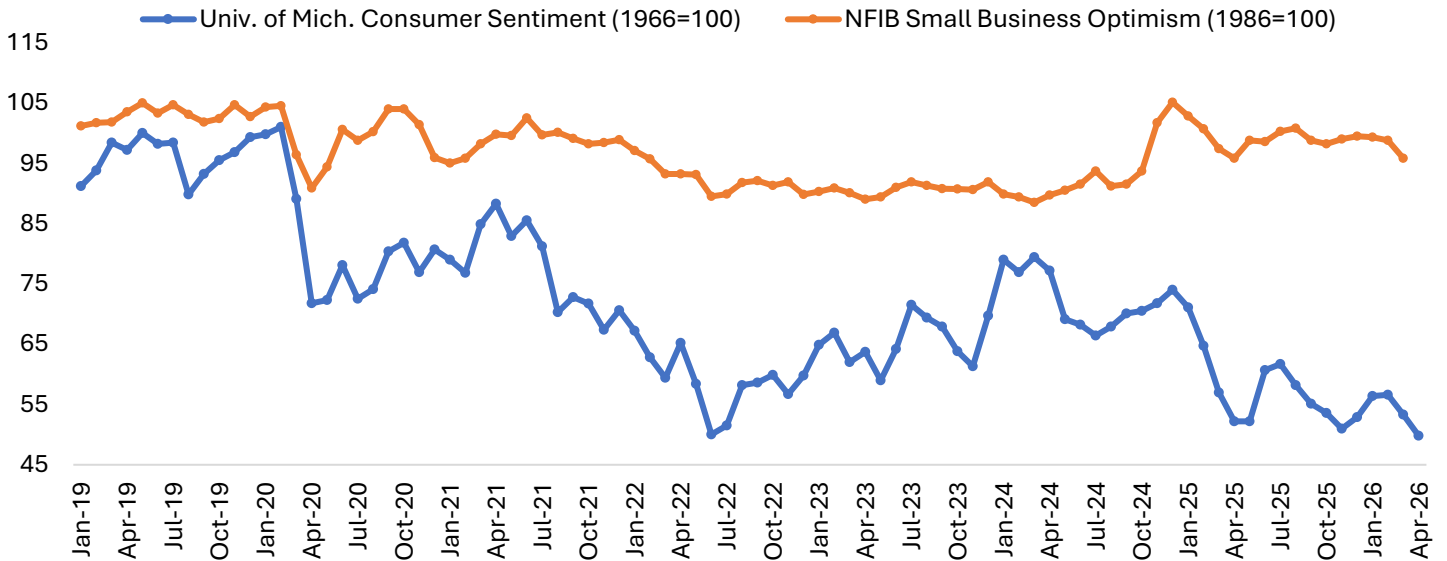
<sup>6</sup> According to the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), the HPI “measures average price changes in repeat sales or refinancing on the same properties.”

### 3.8 Sentiment

The **Index of Consumer Sentiment** from the University of Michigan declined 7% in April and 5% from a year ago. Declines were seen across political party, education, age, and income groups. Year-ahead inflation expectations rose sharply this month from 2.8% to 4.7%, the largest one-month increase since April 2025. Consumers expressed concerns about the impact of the war in Iran on prices for gasoline and other products.

The **Small Business Optimism Index**, as measured by the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB), fell 3% in March. The index was down 2% from a year ago in March 2025 and is now below the 52-year average. The uncertainty index rose four points during the month to 92, significantly above the historical average of 68. Business owners are concerned about rapidly rising oil prices and input costs.

#### Consumer Sentiment and Small Business Optimism Indexes

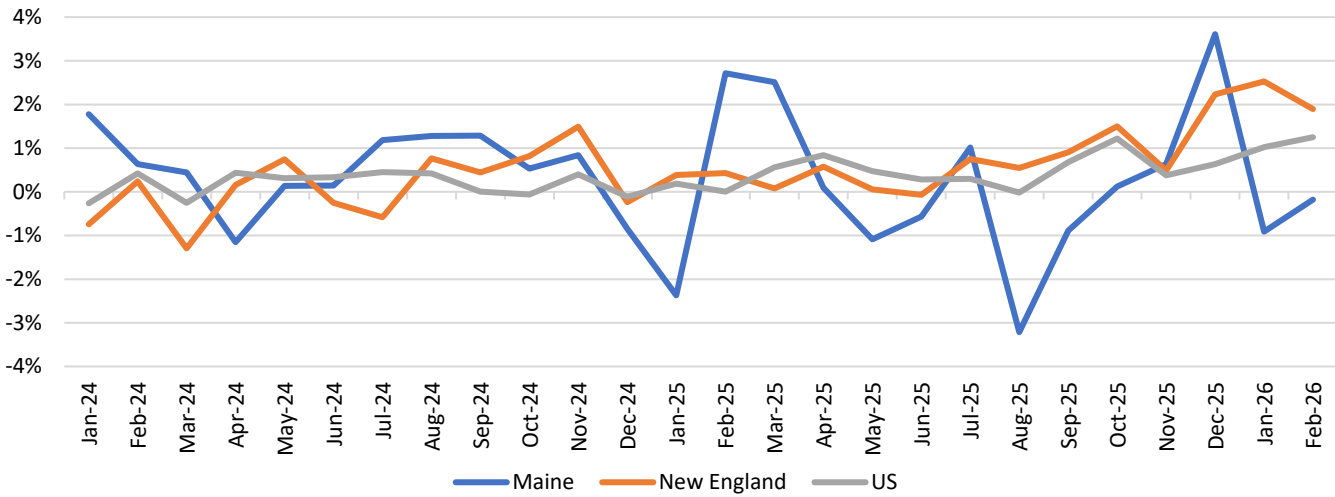


### 3.9 Trade Outlook

#### 3.9.1 Exports and trade partners

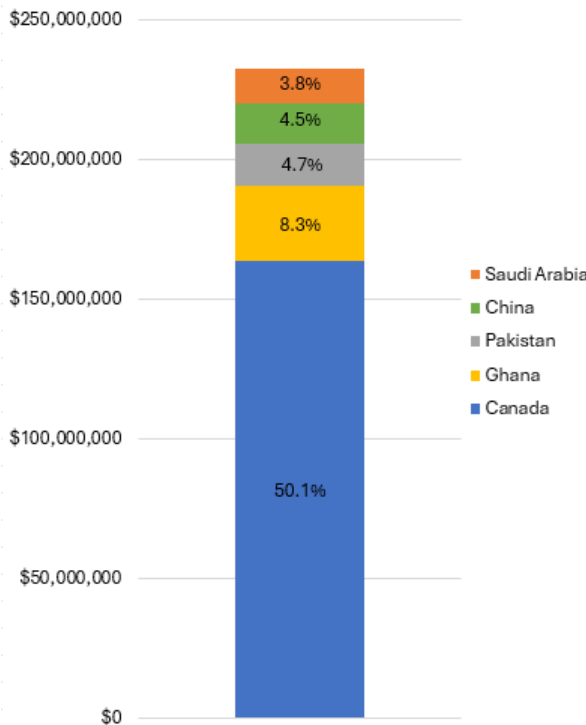
In February 2026, the 12-month rolling average of Maine exports was \$262.6 million, down 0.2% from January. New England exports were up 1.9% and U.S. exports were up 1.3% during the same period.

12-Month Rolling Average of Exports, % Change from Previous Month

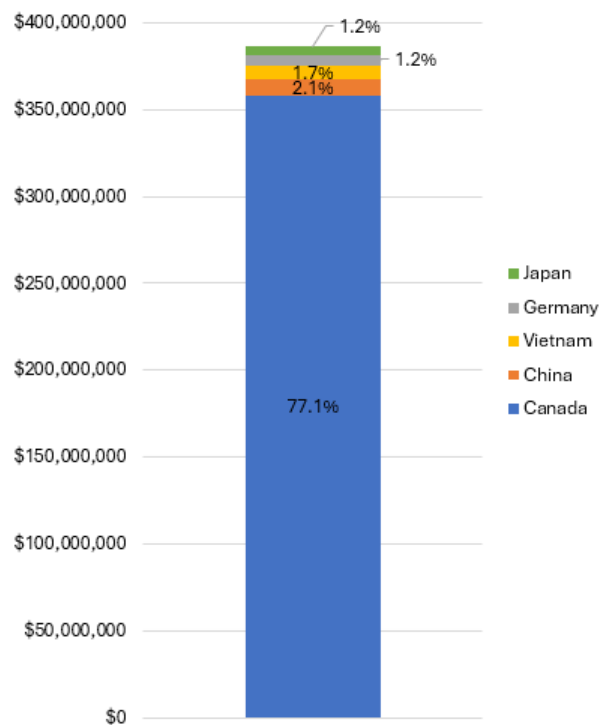


Maine’s top trade partner in February was Canada, which accounted for 77% of imports and 50% of exports.

Value of exports to top 5 export partners

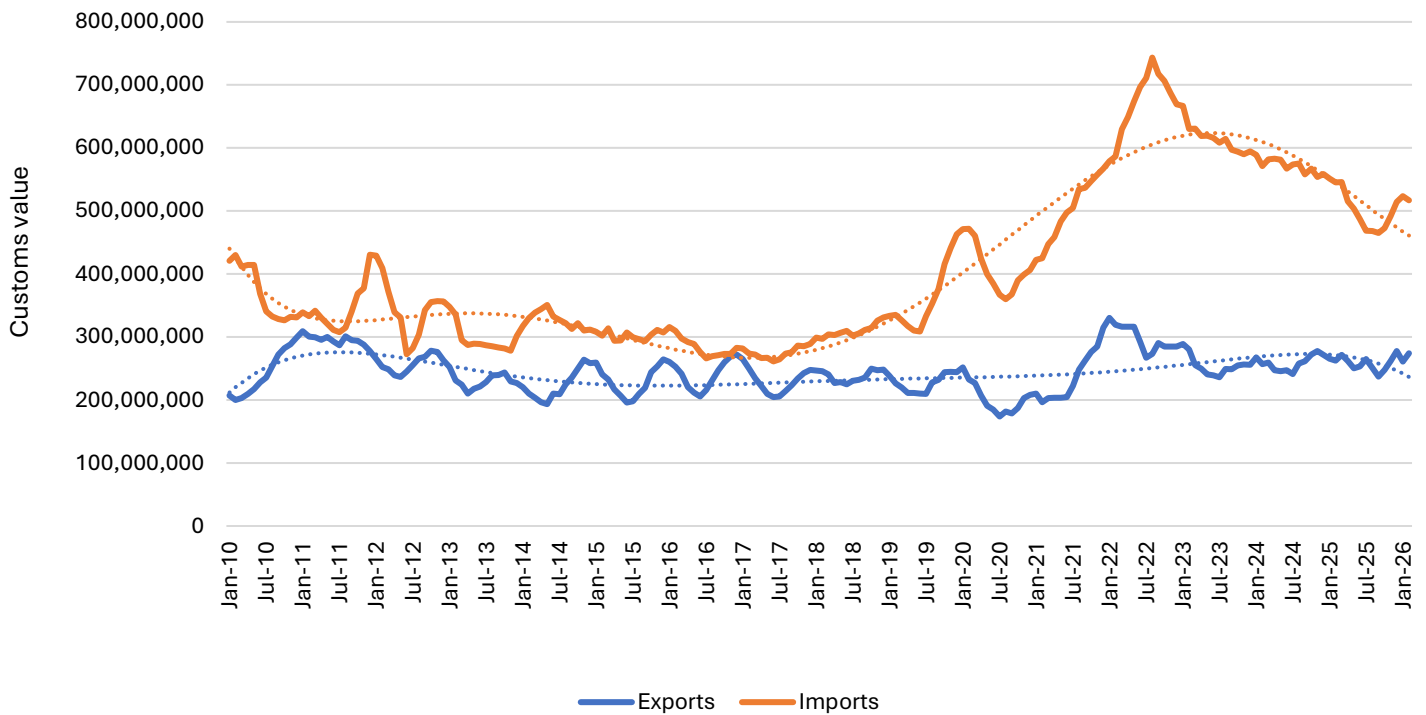


Value of imports from top 5 import partners



Similar to the nation, Maine’s trade deficit grew as the U.S. dollar strengthened relative to foreign currencies, which makes imports from other countries cheaper and more attractive. Conversely, a strong U.S. dollar can lead to decreasing exports, as goods and services from the U.S. are more expensive for international consumers. More recently, as the strength of the U.S. dollar has weakened, Maine’s trade deficit has started to shrink. After peaking in August 2022 at -\$470 million, Maine’s six-month average trade deficit was -\$243 million as of February 2026. Imports dropped sharply starting in April 2025, but have increased in recent months.

Maine exports vs. imports, 6-month moving average



## 4 Appendix

### 4.1.1 Data Sources

Indicator	Source	Reference Period	Release Date
<a href="#">Population: estimates and percent change</a>	Census Bureau – Pop. Ests.	2025	January 27, 2026
<a href="#">Net migration: total and percent change</a>	Census Bureau – Pop. Ests.	2025	January 27, 2026
<a href="#">Median age</a>	Census Bureau – ACS 1-year	2024	September 11, 2025
<a href="#">Educational attainment</a>	Census Bureau – ACS 1-year	2024	September 11, 2025
<a href="#">Poverty level</a>	Census Bureau – ACS 1-year	2024	September 11, 2025
<a href="#">Income</a>	Census Bureau – ACS 1-year	2024	September 11, 2025
<a href="#">Per capita personal consumption expenditure</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	2024	September 26, 2025
<a href="#">Per capita disposable personal income</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	2024	September 26, 2025
<a href="#">Average earnings per job</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	2024	September 26, 2025
<a href="#">Gross domestic product</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	2025:Q4	April 9, 2026
<a href="#">GDPNow</a>	Atlanta Fed	2026:Q2	May 1, 2026
<a href="#">Real-time Sahm Rule Recession Indicator</a>	Sahm, Claudia/FRED	March 2026	April 3, 2026
<a href="#">GDP-Based Recession Indicator Index</a>	Hamilton, James/FRED	2025:Q4	April 30, 2026
<a href="#">Personal income: total, per capita, and wages and salaries</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis	2025:Q4	April 9, 2026
<a href="#">Unemployment rate</a>	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	February 2026	April 22, 2026
<a href="#">Labor force participation</a>	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	February 2026	April 22, 2026
<a href="#">Nonfarm payroll job estimates</a>	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	February 2026	April 22, 2026
<a href="#">Consumer Price Index</a>	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics	March 2026	April 10, 2026
<a href="#">PCE Price Index</a>	U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis/FRED	March 2026	April 10, 2026
<a href="#">Brent Spot Prices</a>	Energy Information Administration	April 24, 2026	April 29, 2026
<a href="#">Gasoline Prices</a>	Energy Information Administration	April 27, 2026	April 28, 2026
<a href="#">House price index</a>	Federal Housing Finance Agency	2025:Q4	February 24, 2026
<a href="#">Housing: Units and Median Sale Price</a>	Maine Association of REALTORS®	January - March 2026	April 13, 2026
<a href="#">Housing Inventory – Active Listing Count in Maine</a>	Realtor.com via FRED	March 2026	April 2, 2026
<a href="#">Index of Consumer Sentiment</a>	University of Michigan Survey of Consumers	April 2026	April 24, 2026
<a href="#">Small Business Optimism Index</a>	National Federation of Independent Businesses	March 2026	April 14, 2026
<a href="#">Imports &amp; Exports</a>	USA Trade Online	February 2026	April 2, 2026

## 5. Glossary

**Average earnings per job:** Total earnings, which is the sum of wages and salaries, supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income, divided by total full-time and part-time employment.

**Gross Domestic Product:** The measure of the market value of all final goods and services produced within a state in a particular period of time. GDP by state differs from national GDP for the following reasons: GDP by state excludes and national GDP includes the compensation of federal civilian and military personnel stationed abroad and government consumption of fixed capital for military structures located abroad and for military equipment, except office equipment. **Real GDP:** Real GDP by state is an inflation-adjusted measure of each state's gross product that is based on national prices for the goods and services produced within the state. The real estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) by state are measured in chained (2017) dollars.

**Housing Price Index:** A weighted, repeat-sales index, meaning that it measures average price changes in repeat sales or refinancing on the same properties.

**Labor Force Participation Rate:** The labor force as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population ages 16 years and older.

**Net Migration Rate:** The U.S. Census Bureau defines the net migration rate as the difference between the number of migrants entering and those leaving an area in a year, per 1,000 midyear population. May also be expressed in percent. A positive figure is known as a net immigration rate and a negative figure as a net emigration rate.

**Personal Consumption Expenditures by State:** A measure of spending on goods and services purchased by, and on behalf of, households based on households' state of residence divided by the resident population of the area.

**Personal Income:** Income that persons residing in the area receive in return for their provision of labor, land, and capital used in current production as well as other income, such as personal current transfer receipts. *Per capita personal income:* The personal income of a given area divided by the resident population of the area. *Per capita disposable personal income:* The income available to persons for spending or saving (personal income less personal current taxes) of a given area divided by the resident population of the area.

**Poverty Level:** The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty.

**Total merchandise exports:** Total exports are calculated by adding domestic exports (goods that are grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States) to foreign exports (foreign-origin goods that have previously entered the United States, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands for consumption, entry into a CBP bonded warehouse, or a U.S. **Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)**, and at the time of exportation, have undergone no change in form or condition or enhancement in value by further manufacturing).

**Total Private nonfarm employment:** Each month Current Employment Statistics (CES) surveys a sample of about 2,700 nonfarm private employers (plus federal, state, and local government employers) in Maine asking them to report the number of jobs, hours, and earnings of workers on their payroll during the week including the 12th day of each month. The sample accounts for just 7% of employers, but 34% of nonfarm jobs in the state because a high share of large employers are surveyed.

**Unemployment Rate:** Number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force. To be classified as unemployed, persons must be aged 16 years and older with no employment during the reference week, were available for work,

except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week.

Wages and Salaries: Remuneration receivable by employees (including corporate officers) from employers for the provision of labor services, measured before deductions such as social security contributions, union dues, and voluntary employee contributions to defined contribution pension plans.