

State of Literacy in Maine

2012-2022

Age/Grade Span Early Childhood (Birth-Pre-K)	Positive Signs of Growth	Areas Needing More Growth and Resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Percentages of 4-year olds attending public preschool have risen from 10.4% in 2010 to 48% in 2020 (Maine DOE, 2020). ● 77% of children under age 6 are read to at least 4 days per week (Maine Children’s Alliance, 2019). ● 49% of Maine Children ages 0-5 are read to everyday—13% higher than the national average (Child and Adolescent Health Management Initiative, 2019). ● 54% of Maine children are told stories or sung to by family members everyday—6% higher than the national average (Child and Adolescent Health Management Initiative, 2019). ● 87% of Pre-K students in Maine’s Preschool Expansion Grant moved out of the high-risk category for literacy by the end of the school year (Sullivan, et al., 2019). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only 35% of Maine’s public pre-k programs offer full-day/full week programming (Maine DOE, 2020). ● 53% of Black or African American children ages 0-5 in Maine live in poverty as compared to 14.2% of all children ages 0-5 in Maine (Maine Children’s Alliance, 2019). ● Although a relatively small population, more resources and professional learning are needed to support the 3.9% of Maine children ages 3-5 who are multilingual (Maine Department of Education Multilingual Learner Dashboard, 2022). ● Less than half (43%) of Maine’s children ages 0-5 regularly participated in developmental screenings (Child and Adolescent Health Management Initiative, 2019). ● In 2022, 15.75% of the active early care and education workforce members in the Maine Roads to Quality registry only have a high school diploma (Maine Roads to Quality PDN, 2022).

State of Literacy in Maine

2012-2022

Age/Grade Span School Age (K-8)	Positive Signs of Growth	Areas Needing More Growth and Resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 92% of Maine public school systems provide full-day kindergarten programs (MDOE Maine Schools data from school year 2020-2021). ● 19 public schools (5.85%) have half-day kindergarten programs that educate 5.4% (620) of Maine’s 11,633 kindergartners. (MDOE Maine Schools data and October 1 enrollment school year 2020-2021). ● In 2018-19, 55% of Maine students were at or above state expectations for ELA/literacy, an increase from 50.7% in 2017-18 (Maine DOE, ESSA Data Dashboard, 2019). ● Statewide, 62% of females and 50.1% of males were at or above state expectations for ELA/literacy in 2018-19 (Maine DOE, 2019). This is an increase from 56.3% and 45.4% respectively in 2017-18. <p>Digital Literacy as of Spring 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 23,734 cellular devices were distributed in the spring of 2020 to connect students to remote learning technology (<i>Maine DOE, CARES Act No Internet or Device 2021</i>). ● 7,450 devices were distributed to students who had WiFi connections but not a dedicated device (<i>Maine DOE, CARES Act No Internet or Device 2021</i>). 	<p>In 2019, the Nation’s Report Card indicated that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade 4 students in Maine had an average scale score of 221, lower than the scores for the period 1992-2013. ● Grade 4 students in Maine eligible for free and reduced lunch had an average scaled score of 209, compared to the average Grade 4 scaled score in Maine of 221. ● Grade 4 students in Maine who are black have an average scale score of 203, compared to the average Grade 4 scaled score of 222 among Maine’s white students. ● Grade 8 students in Maine had an average scale score of 265, lower than the scores for the period 1992-2013. ● Grade 8 students eligible for free and reduced lunch had an average scale score of 255, compared to the average Grade 8 scaled score in Maine of 265. ● Grade 8 students in Maine who are black have an average scale score of 236, compared to the average Grade 4 scaled score of 267 among Maine’s white students. (<i>NAEP Reading 2019 Highlights 2019</i>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overall, 14.6% of multilingual learners were at or above state expectations for ELA/literacy in 2018-19, a decrease from 15.2% the previous year (Maine Department of Education, Multilingual Learner Data Dashboard, 2019). ● 18.3 % of Maine students K-12 are chronically absent from school (Maine DOE, 2020). This figure is of concern recognizing that studies have demonstrated that only 17%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the 2020-2021 school year, Maine DOE developed Maine Online Opportunity for Sustained Education (MOOSE) modules for asynchronous use, providing free digital units of study for any student to use. Within the first six months, the MOOSE modules were accessed by more than 12,000 users (<i>Maine DOE, CARES Act No Internet or Device 2021</i>).• Between 2019 and 2020, Maine DOE added two digital learning specialists to provide training and support to the field.	<p>of students chronically absent in both kindergarten and 1st grade were reading proficiently in third grade, compared to 64% of those with good attendance (Applied Survey Research, 2011).</p>
--	--	--

State of Literacy in Maine

2012-2022

	Positive Signs of Growth	Areas Needing More Growth and Resources
Age/Grade Span High School and Adult (Grade 9-Adult)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 59% of 11th grade students perform at or above proficiency* in reading (Maine Education Data, ESSA Data Dashboard, 2018) (<i>proficiency determined by standard setting of summative state assessment</i>) ● 87.5% of Maine students graduate from high school (Maine DOE, 2020) as compared to the national rate of 85% (Atwell, M., et al, 2020). ● Maine Adult Education Data 2018-2019 (<i>MDOE-ADULT EDUCATION DATA COORDINATOR RELEASED: NOVEMBER 2019</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3,538 Adult High School Completion Students were in high school Diploma and HiSET preparation courses ● 1,212 of 3,538 students received a High School Credential ● 1,374 College Preparatory Students ● 4,592 Workforce Preparation Participants ● 2,776 English Language Acquisition and Civics Education Students ● 5,360 Adult Basic Education Students ● 354 High School Credit Recovery Students (High School Students) ● 13.4% of Maine adults have low literacy (reading 	<p>Maine Adult Education Data 2018-2019 (<i>MDOE-ADULT EDUCATION DATA COORDINATOR RELEASED: NOVEMBER 2019, 2019</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 35% of jobs in Maine require a bachelor’s degree but only 17% of adults 25 or over have this degree. ● 8% of the Maine’s adult population (99,982) are adults without a high school credential. <p>New England Consortium of Secondary Schools (2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● College enrollment among Maine students has declined slightly from 61.7% in 2009 to 59.6% in 2019. ● A significant disparity exists between the college enrollment of economically disadvantaged students (42%) and non-economically disadvantaged (70.7%). ● Persistence among college students (defined as students enrolled for a third semester in their second year) has significantly declined from 90.6% in 2011 to 67% in 2018. ● Maine’s Department of Economic and Community Development (2019) has laid out a robust economic development strategy, one in which high levels of literacy among Mainers will be an asset for ensuring a skilled and innovative workforce.

	<p>proficiently at less than a 6th grade level) as compared to 54% of United States adults (Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The college completion rate for Maine has increased from 60.1% among students who started college in 2009 to 62.9% among students who started in 2013 (New England Secondary Schools Consortium, 2020).	
--	--	--