2023 Demographic Profile of Maine

MaineDOT has gathered a demographic profile of the State of Maine that includes identification of the locations of minority populations in the aggregate, and developed demographic maps that overlay the percent minority, non-minority and non-native-born populations as identified by the U.S. Census or American Community Survey data. We have compiled that data by county, below. MaineDOT’s most recent data assessment was done in 2021. MaineDOT will update this information as it becomes available.

**Demographic Profile of Minorities and Non-American National Origin by County.** Based on the 2021 United States Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (most recent information available), Maine has a small but growing minority population that is geographically spread across the state. 14 of Maine’s 16 counties have minority populations of greater than 5%, and the remaining two counties have seen increases in their minority populations, according to the most recent available data. The summary table below shows white and minority populations for each of the counties. White is defined as one race, White alone, not Hispanic or Latino. Minority is defined as Hispanic or Latino or Latino, Black or African American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Other race or Multi-racial. Maine has an estimated minority of 7.99%.

Approximately 66% of Maine’s minority population lives in four counties:

* Androscoggin County: 11, 571 people of whom approximately 62% live in urban Auburn and Lewiston.
* Cumberland County: 34,026 people, of whom approximately 66% live in the Portland metropolitan area (Portland and Scarborough).
* Penobscot County: 11,142 people of whom approximately 78% live in the Bangor metropolitan area (Bangor, Brewer, Old Town, Orono, Veazie, and Hampden).
* York County: 15,858 people, of whom approximately 36% live in Biddeford, Saco, and Old Orchard Beach.

Cumberland and Washington Counties have the greatest percentages of minority populations with 11.31% and 11.26% respectively, while Androscoggin County follows with 10.48%. The Washington County minority population is comprised of the Native American Passamaquoddy Tribe, with some Penobscot and Maliseet presence. There is a Latin community in southern Washington County (and northern Hancock County) as well. The Androscoggin County minority population is comprised primarily of African immigrants. Otherwise, the metropolitan areas of Androscoggin and Cumberland Counties account for minority population concentrations.

The following identifies minority populations by county:

**State of Maine Race Demographics by State/County**

**County Total Population White # Minority # Minority %**

Androscoggin 110,378 98,807 11,571 10.48%

Aroostook 67,272 62,809 4,463 6.63%

Cumberland 300,776 266,750 34,026 11.31%

Franklin 29,487 28,021 1,466 4.97%

Hancock 55,417 52,117 3,300 5.95%

Kennebec 123,293 115,799 7,494 6.08%

Knox 40,519 38,390 2,129 5.25%

Lincoln 35,065 33,053 2,012 5.74%

Oxford 57,807 54,379 3,428 5.93%

Penobscot 152,211 141,069 11,169 7.32%

Piscataquis 16,760 15,645 1,115 6.65%

Sagadahoc 36,530 34,210 2,320 6.35%

Somerset 50,424 48,011 2,413 4.79%

Waldo 39,618 37,382 2,236 5.64%

Washington 31,003 27,511 3,492 11.26%

York 210,486 194,628 15,858 7.53%

**Maine Totals 1,357,046 1,248,581 108,465 7.99%**

Source: 2021 United States Bureau of the Census American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

**Non-American National Origin**

The data on the national origin of Maine residents is similar in many ways to the minorities data. The core of Cumberland County again has the highest percentage of non-American-born persons. The St. John Valley of northernmost Aroostook County has several towns with large numbers of non-native-born residents. Towns in this area along the border with Canada show up more prominently on this map than the minorities map, reflecting a higher representation of French Canadians. The map of concentrations of non-American-born residents shows many of these border towns with percentages higher than the state average though most of these towns are sparsely populated. Cumberland and Androscoggin Counties have concentrations of non-native-born people due to the Maine Refugee Resettlement Program centered in Po1iland (Cumberland County) and Lewiston (Androscoggin County). There are relatively few towns in the western and eastern areas of the state with concentrations of non-natives, other than clusters around Augusta and Bangor.

The following identifies national origin populations by county:

**County Total Population Native Native Foreign**

**Born # Born % Born %**

Androscoggin 110,378 106,373 96.4% 6.3%

Aroostook 67,272 64,503 95.9% 4.1%

Cumberland 300,776 282,508 93.9% 6.1%

Franklin 29,487 28,925 98.1% 1.9%

Hancock 55,417 53,865 97.2% 2.8%

Kennebec 123,293 120,552 97.8% 2.2%

Knox 40,519 39,338 97.1% 2.9%

Lincoln 35,065 34,300 97.8% 2.2%

Oxford 57,807 56,966 98.5% 1.5%

Penobscot 152,211 147,648 97.0% 3.0%

Piscataquis 16,760 16,330 97.4% 2.6%

Sagadahoc 36,530 34,210 96.7% 3.3%

Somerset 50,424 49,611 98.4% 1.6%

Waldo 39,618 38,766 97.8% 2.2%

Washington 31,003 29,951 96.6% 3.4%

York 210,486 202,773 96.3% 3.7%

**Maine Totals 1,357,046 1,307,743 96.4% 3.6%**

Source: 2021 United States Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates