maine innovation index

January 2011

Prepared by:

PolicyOne Research, Inc.
www.policyoneresearch.com
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The 2011 Maine Innovation Index is the tenth edition of our annual, independent evaluation of our progress on key indicators. This report compares Maine’s performance with the United States, the New England states and the other EPSCoR states in order to show our competitive position over time. Using longitudinal data dating back to 1996, the Index allows policy makers to see the impact of the investment that Maine has made in innovation since then.

The data contained in this report continues to inform our policy making technology-based economic development. As noted in the new 2010 Science and Technology Action Plan, Maine’s strategy of investment in our innovation economy broadens the State’s earlier focus on building research capacity by expanding investment and support for innovation and entrepreneurship that directly leads to greater commercial activity. The Plan includes benchmarks for all goals and strategies, and so the Index is critical to tracking our progress.

This year’s Index shows that Maine has some areas of strength, and areas where we have improved over time. We outperform our Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) peers on a number of indicators, which is important because these are states like ours which have had to build from a position well behind other states. And, there are areas where we have a lot of work to do.

In 2009 this report and the companion R&D Evaluation won an award from the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) for Excellence in Project Impact Analysis/Program Evaluation or Assessment. We are committed to continuing this tradition of independent, data-driven assessment of our innovation policy to help impact the trajectory of Maine’s economy.

Sincerely,

George Gervais
Acting Commissioner
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INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY

Maine’s economy has expanded from its traditional bases of forestry, fishing, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing to include an increasing influence from business, financial and health services; information technologies, biomedical technologies, advanced materials, aquaculture, and advanced manufacturing. Furthermore, Maine’s economy, like the global economy, is becoming increasingly driven by entities and individuals that operate at innovative crossroads of these sectors. Maine’s future success in growing its economic base and increasing the standard of living of its people lies in the ability of its companies, workers, and citizens to foster this innovation.

The Council of Competitiveness through its National Innovation Initiative describes innovation as the “intersection of invention and insight, leading to the creation of social and economic value.” The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation suggests that innovation is “the creation and adoption of new products, services, production processes and business models.”

The importance of innovation in driving Maine’s future economic growth cannot be overstated. According to the Council of Competitiveness innovation is “the single most important factor in determining America’s success through the 21st Century. It will drive productivity, standard of living, and leadership in the global economy,” a thought that is echoed by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation – “States face a new imperative to boost the competitiveness of their economies not just relative to each other, but to other nations.”

The Office of Innovation (OOI) was established within the Department of Economic and Community Development to advance Maine’s economic well-being and expand employment opportunities by encouraging and coordinating the State’s R&D activities and fostering collaboration among its higher educational and nonprofit research institutions and the business community. It is the responsibility of OOI to regularly plan for and report on progress made by the State in these regards.

Maine’s Innovation Index 2011 is a compilation of 24 indicators measuring Maine’s economic capacity and progress toward competing in an innovation-driven economy. The indicators are organized into five categories representing key components of an innovation-based economy:

- Research and Development Capacity
- Innovation Capacity
- Employment & Output Capacity
- Education Capacity
- Connectivity Capacity

Research and Development Capacity - Research forms the basis for the successful development of new products, processes and services. The section on research and development (R&D) capacity provides measures of the dollar amount of R&D performance in the state as a percent of gross state product. The measures capture performance (as measured by spending) by the various types of entities engaged in R&D, including industry, academic institutions, and not-for-profit laboratories. Additionally, R&D contributions by the federal government and the state are considered within the R&D capacity section.
Innovation Capacity - Innovation is the continuous process of generating and applying new ideas that lead to commercialization of new products, processes and services. It is this commercialization process that leads to the creation of new jobs and ultimately increased wealth throughout the state. The innovation capacity section of this report assesses Maine’s potential for generating innovation by measuring grants obtained through the Federal Small Business Innovation Research program, venture capital attracted, patents issued, and entrepreneurial activity.

Employment & Output Capacity - The depth and breadth of Maine’s highly skilled workforce is perhaps the most important indicator of our ability to grow and sustain an innovation-driven economy. For Maine to remain competitive in today’s marketplace we need to assure that technology and research-intensive businesses and institutions have a thick labor market of skilled and highly educated workers. With a skilled and knowledge driven labor market Maine can improve its ultimate economic outcomes: gross state product and per capita income. This section includes the measures of employment within Maine’s targeted technology sectors, science and engineering occupations and PhD’s in the workforce, gross state product, and per capita income.

Education Capacity - Maine’s economic future will depend heavily on the quality of today’s education systems. Since knowledge is the raw material of innovation, our education systems must produce students capable of organizing and analyzing information, communicating effectively, and operating in both collaborative and independent settings. As a state, our success relies on our ability to increase access to a quality, life-long education system for all Maine residents. Over the long-term, it is our education capacity that will serve as the foundation for our employment capacity. Furthermore, technology and innovation based businesses rely on workers with solid foundations in math and science as well as advanced knowledge in science and engineering fields. The education capacity section includes the indicators of science and math skills of 8th grade students, the chance for college by age 19, science and engineering graduate enrollments and degrees awarded, and the percent of population 25 and older with bachelor’s degree or more.

Connectivity Capacity - The development and deployment of information technology (IT) has profoundly impacted the way we access and use information, and is defining the way we learn, work, and communicate. The section on connectivity capacity measures Maine’s ability to provide IT infrastructure to enable businesses, educators, students and citizens to easily access information. Connectivity capacity indicators include high-speed Internet access, household Internet connectivity, and K-12 students per Internet connected classroom computer.

Within each capacity area there are two types of indicators. The first measures the relative strength of the “raw materials” essential to the growth of Maine’s innovation economy. Examples include: R&D spending, education attainment, venture capital investments, and Internet connectivity — all necessary inputs that serve as the foundation for innovation-based economic growth. The second type of indicator assesses the performance of Maine’s innovation-driven economic growth by measuring key outputs and products. Examples include: patents issued, technology-business establishments, and technology employment. These indicators tell us how Maine’s innovation economy is performing and the degree to which inputs are leading to desired outputs and outcomes. In addition to the 24 key indicators, related sub-indicators further describe Maine’s performance in growing and sustaining the innovation economy.

In order to assess Maine’s performance on the indicators relative to other states and regions, the data for Maine is compared with data for relevant comparison, or reference groups. The reference groups are the U.S. as a whole, the New England states, and the states that are included in the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The comparison with the U.S. provides the benchmark most commonly used by similar studies that measure a state’s performance. The comparison with the New England states allows for an assessment of how well Maine is doing relative to the state’s geographic neighbors with whom Maine competes for innovation resources and industry. The comparison with EPSCoR states provides the most analytically sound benchmark because it compares Maine to states that are similar in
terms of their historical performance on R&D indicators. Most of the EPSCoR states are rural and lack a high concentration of industry and related innovation resources.

Table 1 presents a summary of Maine’s performance for the 24 primary innovation indicators. It is important to note that for some of the indicators, data for the reference group comparisons and five-year trends is not available. The indicators presented are not meant to be the sole-source, definitive assessment of whether Maine is succeeding in building and sustaining an innovation economy. Like all states, Maine has areas that represent strengths or assets that will serve as the building blocks for the future economy. It also has areas requiring improvement in order for the state to foster innovation, leading to commercialization and economic growth. In many of these areas Maine has made significant progress in the last five years. However, it is clear from several of the indicators that more needs to be done.

**Existing areas of strength for Maine in building and sustaining an innovation driven economy** - The following are indicators for which Maine’s performance ranks it within the top 20 states in the latest year for which data is available:

- Not-for-Profit Laboratory R&D Performance
- Federal R&D Obligations
- Gross State Product Growth
- Math Skills of 8th Grade Students
- Science Skills of 8th Grade Students
- Higher Education Enrollment among Young People – Chance for College by Age 19
- Classroom Connectivity

**Areas in which Maine showed improvement during the last five years in building and sustaining an innovation driven economy** - The following are indicators for which Maine experienced a trend of improvement during the last five years:

- Academic R&D Performance
- Federal R&D Obligations
- Gross State Product Growth
- State R&D Investments
- Venture Capital Investments
- Ph.D. Scientists and Engineers in the Labor Force
- Per Capita Income
- Math Skills of 8th Grade Students
- Higher Education Enrollment among Young People – Chance for College by Age 19
- Science and Engineering Graduate Enrollments
- Science and Engineering Degrees Awarded
- Education Attainment – % of Population 25 and Older with Bachelor’s Degree or More
- High Speed Internet Access
- Classroom Connectivity

**Areas in which Maine outperforms its EPSCoR peers** - Success in economic development does not occur overnight, and Maine, building from a position well behind other states, still has a way to go to success-
fully compete with the top tier states. However, in several indicators, Maine outperforms its peer states as defined by the EPSCoR program. The following are indicators for which Maine’s performance exceeds the EPSCoR states as a whole in the latest year for which data is available:

- Not-for-Profit Laboratory R&D Performance
- Federal R&D Obligations
- Gross State Product Growth
- Venture Capital Investments
- Entrepreneurial Activity
- Ph.D. Scientists and Engineers in the Labor Force
- Math Skills of 8th Grade Students
- Science Skills of 8th Grade Students
- Higher Education Enrollment among Young People – Chance for College by Age 19
- Education Attainment – % of Population 25 and Older with Bachelor’s Degree or More
- Household Connectivity
- Classroom Connectivity

Existing areas requiring improvement for Maine in building and sustaining an innovation driven economy - The following are indicators for which Maine’s performance ranks it within the bottom 20 states in the latest year for which data is available:

- Total R&D Performance
- Industry R&D Performance
- Academic R&D Performance
- SBIR/STTR Funding
- Venture Capital Investments
- Patents Issued
- S&E Occupations in the Workforce
- Science and Engineering Graduate Enrollments
- Science and Engineering Degrees Awarded
- Household Connectivity
- High Speed Internet Access
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>Maine 1-Year Trend</th>
<th>Maine 5-Year Trend</th>
<th>Maine Compared to EPSCoR Most Current Year</th>
<th>Maine Latest Year National Rank 1-51 with 1=best; (year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESEARCH &amp; DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total R&amp;D Performance</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>40 (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry R&amp;D Performance</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>38 (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic R&amp;D Performance</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>41 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not-for-Profit Laboratory R&amp;D Performance</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>3 (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal R&amp;D Obligations</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>14 (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State R&amp;D Investments</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A (FY 2010-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INNOVATION CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBIR/STTR Funding</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>36 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture Capital Investments</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>34 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patents Issued</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>42 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurial Activity</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>21 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMPLOYMENT &amp; OUTPUT CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Technology Sector Employment - % Change</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A (2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;E Occupations in the Workforce</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>43 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ph.D. Scientists and Engineers in the Labor Force</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>28 (2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross State Product - % Change</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>12 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Income</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>⇔</td>
<td>31 (2009)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE 1 - MAINE INNOVATION INDEX 2011 – INDICATOR PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>Maine 1-Year Trend</th>
<th>Maine 5-Year Trend</th>
<th>Maine Compared to EPSCoR Most Current Year</th>
<th>Maine Latest Year National Rank 1-51 with 1=best; (year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math Skills of 8th Grade Students</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>19 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Skills of 8th Grade Students</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>9 (2005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Enrollment among Young People – Chance for College by Age 19</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>14 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Engineering Graduate Enrollments</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>51 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Engineering Degrees Awarded</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>38 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Attainment - % of Population 25 and Older with Bachelor’s Degree or More</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>24 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CONNECTIVITY CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Connectivity⁶</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>34 (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Speed Internet Access</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>45 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Connectivity</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>2 (2006)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ranking is among all states plus District of Columbia, 1-51 with 1=best. Latest year is in parentheses.

Key:  
↑ = Improving Trend or Higher  
↓ = Decreasing or Lower  
↔ = No Change or Equal  
N/A = Not Applicable or Data Not Available
Endnotes

1 Innovate America, Council of Competitiveness, 2004

2 The 2008 State New Economy Index, The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, 2008

3 see endnote 1

4 See endnote 2

5 EPSCoR focuses on those states that have historically received lesser amounts of federal R&D funding and have demonstrated a commitment to develop their research bases and to improve the quality of science and engineering research conducted at their universities and colleges. The program currently operates in 23 states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, as well as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For the purposes of this report, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are not included in EPSCoR data calculations. This description is from the EPSCoR Web site at: http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/epscor/start.cfm.

6 Data is from a different source than previous years and therefore is not compatible for comparison with data presented in previous years of the Maine Innovation Index.
Research and development (R&D) is a driving force in economic growth. It fuels innovation that leads to new products, processes, technologies, and services. These innovations spawn new industries, new jobs, and ultimately, an improved quality of life. R&D activity also attracts and supports a highly educated and skilled workforce which in turn continues to build a cycle of innovation.

After a decrease of 14 percent between 2005 and 2006 in total R&D spending, Maine has shown a positive trend in the latest report. Between 2006 and 2007, the latest two years for which comparable state data is available, Maine, at 7.78 percent, was slightly above the U.S (7.26 percent) as a whole in total R&D spending, higher than the EPS-CoR states (2.94 percent), but below the New England region (12.51 percent).

In the last ten years, Maine has made progress on building R&D capacity and performance. In 1997, Maine ranked 49th among all states in total R&D as a percent of gross state product (GSP). In 2007, the latest year for which comparable data is available, Maine improved its ranking to 40th but down from 38th in 2006. In terms of R&D performance by sector, Maine ranks high in not-for-profit R&D nationally in 2007 (ranking 3rd highest nationally in terms of R&D performed as a percent of GSP), and lower in terms of industry and academic R&D. However, the state is making progress in academic R&D. In 2004 Maine ranked 45th in academic R&D as a percent of GSP but improved to 41st in 2008. With regard to industry R&D Maine has not progressed far. In 2003 Maine ranked 40th in industry R&D as a percent of GSP. It improved in 2007 to a ranking of 38th.

Maine’s improvement in R&D capacity is by design. In the early 1990’s, Maine invested very little in R&D with annual funding levels below $3 million. Since 2000, Maine has maintained annual state R&D investment levels in excess of $20 million with peaks occurring in 2003-04, 2007-08, and 2008-09, due in part to the passage of major bonds for R&D.

Most of the R&D performance indicators in this section are expressed as a percentage of GSP. This provides a measure of both the intensity of R&D in the state (How much is occurring?) and the importance of R&D to the economy (What is its impact?). GSP is also the most accurate way of comparing R&D investments in Maine to other states and the nation. In order to assess Maine’s performance relative to other geographic areas, the R&D indicators in this section are presented in comparison to three reference groups. They are the U.S. as a whole, New England, and states that are part of The Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

These indicators attempt to present the most complete picture of R&D funding in Maine, but they are limited by the
availability of data. For example, nationwide data on state investments in R&D are not available; likewise, figures for R&D spending by not-for-profit laboratories reflect only their federal sources of funding.
Total R&D Performance

Summary

In 2007, total R&D performance in Maine represented 0.98 percent of GSP compared to 2.57 percent for the U.S., 5.17 percent for New England, and 1.33 percent for the EPSCoR states. Maine lags the reference groups on this indicator, but has remained near the average of other EPSCoR states for several historical years. However, Maine saw a slight increase in this indicator from 2006 to 2007, moving it closer to the EPSCoR states. In 1997, Maine ranked 49th among all states in total R&D as a percent of gross state product (GSP). In 2007, the latest year for which comparable data is available, Maine improved its ranking to 40th but down from 38th in 2006.

Why This Is Significant

An innovation economy requires investments in research and development to generate the knowledge and discoveries that lead to new commercial products and services. Such research is conducted by industry, academia, not-for-profit laboratories, and government. This indicator is the most comprehensive measure of R&D capacity in Maine and captures all available sources of comparable state data. Expressing R&D expenditures as a percent of gross state product measures both the impact of R&D on the economy and the intensity of R&D that is occurring.
Related

In 2005, total R&D performed reached $524 million in Maine and then dropped down to $450 million in 2006 before rising to $485 million in 2007. This represents an increase of 7.78 percent from the 2006 level. Between 2003 and 2007, total R&D performed in Maine increased 30.38 percent compared to 47.45 percent for New England, 14.30 percent among the EPSCoR states and 29.60 percent for the U.S. as a whole. Between 2006 and 2007, the latest two years for which comparable state data is available, Maine (at 7.78 percent) was slightly above the U.S (7.26 percent) as a whole, higher than the EPSCoR states (2.94 percent), but below the New England region (12.51 percent).

[Diagram: Total R&D Spending in Maine 1997-2007]

Note: From 1997-2000 & 2002-2007 chart portrays one-year increments; all other years are in two-year increments.

In terms of the sectors contributing to R&D performance, Maine has a higher percentage of R&D performed by the not for profit sector than any of the reference groups. This pattern reflects the significance of Jackson Laboratories, and Maine’s leading medical and marine institutions, in the state’s R&D portfolio. Out of R&D performed by the three major sectors (industry, academic, and not for profit) in 2007, 15.7 percent of R&D performed was by the not for profit sector in Maine. This compares to 2.1 percent in the U.S. as a whole, 5.2 percent among the New England states, and 2.0 percent among the EPSCoR states. In contrast however, in 2007, Maine had a lower percentage of industry R&D being performed with a level of 55.5 percent compared to 82.6 percent for the U.S., 85.0 percent for the New England states, and 62.3 percent for the EPSCoR states as a whole.
R&D by Performance Sector – 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>United States (Total)</th>
<th>Maine</th>
<th>New England (Total)</th>
<th>EPSCoR (Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not-for-profit</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. &amp; Coll.</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: not for profit includes only that which is federally funded and therefore the contribution by this sector is understated.

Sources:

Total R&D spending\(^1\) is from National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics. National Patterns of R&D Resources (annual series), derived from four NSF surveys: Survey of Industrial R&D; Survey of R&D Expenditures at Universities and Colleges, Survey of Federal Funds for R&D, and Survey of R&D Funding and Performance by Nonprofit Organizations; http://www.nsf.gov/statistics.

Industry R&D Performance

Summary

After an increase in industry R&D capacity in 2005, Maine dropped to $253 million in 2006, and increased slightly to $265 million in 2007, an increase of 4.74 percent from the 2006 level. In 2007, industry R&D in Maine represented 0.54 percent of gross state product (GSP). This was slightly lower than the EPSCoR level of 0.57 percent and significantly lower than the U.S. at 1.93 percent and New England at 4.21 percent. Maine has increased slightly on this indicator but its ranking has remained the same at 38th.

Why This Is Significant

This indicator measures Maine’s private sector investments in innovation. Industry R&D comprises the vast majority of the nation’s total R&D investments, and is considered to be an indicator of where industry is willing to reinvest its knowledge base and build a competitive advantage. Industry R&D drives state economic growth by creating high paying jobs for the performance of R&D, increasing productivity, and generating new products and services. Industry R&D is particularly important for transforming and growing Maine’s economy, which has been historically reliant on traditional, natural resource-based industries. R&D can both strengthen these industries as well as create opportunities for new industries in the state.
Related

In 2007, industry R&D in Maine equaled $265 million. This was a small increase of $12 million from the previous year and was a moderate increase from five years previous in 2003 when industry R&D was at $200 million.

Sources


Research & Development Capacity | 2011 Maine Innovation Index

Academic R&D Performance

Summary

In 2008, R&D performed at academic institutions in Maine equaled $128 million, which was a 6.8 percent decrease from the 2007 level of $137 million. While Maine still lags the benchmark groups including the EPSCoR states, and had a decrease in the last year for which data is available, the state has made ground overall on this indicator. In 2008, R&D performed at Maine academic institutions represented 0.25 percent of GSP compared to 0.36 percent in the U.S. as a whole, 0.49 percent among New England states, and 0.33 percent for all EPSCoR states combined. Between 2004 and 2008 growth in academic R&D in Maine equaled 29.2 percent outpacing the growth experienced on average in the U.S (20.0 percent), New England (13.6 percent), and the EPSCoR states (20.5 percent).

Why This Is Significant

Universities and colleges are a major source of knowledge and research. In this knowledge-based economy, businesses increasingly seek to develop partnerships with research-oriented universities and colleges to develop and test innovative products and services. A healthy economy also benefits from knowledge workers that begin their advanced learning and research experiences at universities and colleges. This requires investments in R&D at universities and colleges. This indicator reflects the capacity of Maine universities and colleges to conduct R&D and contribute to knowledge-based economic development.
Related

In 2008 42.9 percent of all R&D performed by academic institutions in Maine was within the life sciences field. This was the largest field of study for academic-performed R&D in Maine. Life sciences include the fields of agricultural, biological, and medical sciences. Environmental sciences (the fields of atmospheric sciences, earth sciences, and oceanography) followed at 18.2 percent and then engineering at 16.6 percent. These three areas accounted for 77 percent of academic-performed R&D in Maine in 2008.

In comparison to the reference group, in 2008 Maine had a greater concentration of academic performed R&D in the fields of environmental and social sciences and a lower concentration in the field of life sciences.
Sources


Not-for-Profit Laboratory R&D Performance

Summary

Maine continues to be a national leader in R&D performed by not-for-profit research laboratories; however the trend indicates the state’s competitive advantage has declined. From 1998 to 2002, R&D performed at Maine’s not-for-profit research labs from federal sources of funding grew dramatically, from 0.097 percent of GSP in 1998 to 0.226 percent of GSP in 2002. In 2003 Maine’s level dropped to 0.175 percent and increased slightly to 0.184 percent in 2004 but then dropped to 0.146 for 2005. It has since increased to 0.151 in 2007 and has remained significantly above the level of the nation as a whole at 0.050 percent and the EPSCoR states combined at 0.019 percent of GSP. The New England level in 2007 was 0.257 percent, remaining above the Maine level.

Why This Is Significant

Maine has a robust and economically important not-for-profit research sector. In Maine this sector includes the institutions of Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, Foundation for Blood Research, Gulf of Maine Research Aquarium, Jackson Laboratory, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, and the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health. This is significant because Maine has historically lacked private academic institutions, such as a medical school, that focus on R&D. The not-for-profit institutions are involved in various partnerships with the University of Maine which helps increase Maine’s overall R&D capacity. Taken together, Maine’s not for profit research labs and academic institutions contribute significantly to both R&D performance and the development of students and talent.
Related

In terms of absolute dollars, federal funding for not-for-profit R&D performance in Maine increased from $31 million in 1998 to more than $81 million in 2004, before falling off to a little less than $67 million in 2005. It has since rebounded slightly and increased to $74.7 million in 2007, a change slightly above (2.9 percent) where it was 5 years previous in 2003.

In terms of what agency the funding is coming from for not-for-profit R&D, Maine relies very heavily on the Department of Health and Human Services, receiving almost 93% of funding from that agency. By comparison, the U.S. as a whole receives 60.9% of its funding from DHHS. Maine also receives some (just under 7%) of its funding from the National Science Foundation, placing it slightly above the U.S. which receives just under 6.5% from the NSF.
NonProfit R&D Obligations by Funding Agency – U.S.  2007

Total Federal R&D Obligations: $6,820,405,000

NonProfit R&D Obligations by Funding Agency – Maine  2007

Total Federal R&D Obligations: $74,636,000
NOT-FOR-PROFIT LABORATORY R&D PERFORMANCE

Sources


Federal R&D Obligations

Summary

Between 1998 and 2001, Maine experienced significant increases in federal funding for R&D to a point where the state caught up with the reference groups on this indicator. During this period federal funding for R&D in Maine increased from 0.33 percent of gross state product (GSP) to 1.18 percent. However from 2001 to 2003, Maine experienced a drop on this indicator to a level of 0.36 percent of GSP or near 1998 levels. Since then, Maine has seen some recovery up to 2005 where it had the level of 0.53 percent and then it dropped slightly in 2006 to 0.48 percent. In 2007 Maine experienced a jump past the EPSCoR states (0.57 percent) to 0.76 percent and approaches the U.S. as a whole (0.80 percent) but well behind the New England level (1.34%). Maine has also improved its ranking from 25th in 2006 to 14th in 2007.

Why This Is Significant

Federal funding is an important source of financial support for R&D, contributing approximately 22 percent of total R&D funding in the U.S. This indicator measures Maine’s capacity to access federal funds to support its R&D enterprise. State investments in R&D infrastructure build on the capacity of research entities to access federal R&D grants.
Related

In 2007, the industrial research sector was the largest recipient of federally funded R&D in Maine, accounting for 68.9 percent of the state’s federal R&D obligations. Following this was the not-for-profit research sector at 20.4 percent. In comparison to the reference groups – the U.S. as a whole, New England, and the EPSCoR states – Maine’s federal obligations for R&D were more highly concentrated in the industrial and not-for-profit performance sectors and less concentrated in the academic sector.

In terms of the sources of federal funds, in 2007, 70.6 percent of Maine’s federal obligations for R&D came from the Department of Defense followed by 20.4 percent from the Department of Health and Human Services. All other federal agencies accounted for a total of 9.0 percent. In comparison to the U.S. as a whole in 2007, Maine is more dependent on the Department of Defense for federal R&D obligations and similar to the U.S. with funding from the Department of Health and Human Services. However, there appears to be a mismatch between Maine’s targeted industry sectors of energy and environmental sciences and the amount of federal funding received from agencies that typically support these industries (Department of Energy and the EPA).
Federal R&D Obligations by Funding Agency – Maine - 2007

Total Federal R&D Obligations: $377,059,000

Federal R&D Obligations by Funding Agency – U.S. - 2007

Total Federal R&D Obligations: $111,210,200,000

Sources


State R&D Investments

Summary

Over the last ten years Maine has seen fluctuations in state-sponsored investments in research and development. In FY 2001-02, Maine had an annual investment level in R&D of just under $30 million. By FY 2010-11, Maine had an annual investment level of $38.5 million. By 2003-04, Maine’s annual investment exceeded $60.7 million. Since 2004-05 Maine has maintained an annual state investment level of general fund appropriations between $20 million and $26 million annually.

Why This Is Significant

Maine’s state-sponsored investments in research and development are used to build infrastructure and leverage federal and industry research funding. Federal R&D expenditures rarely fund research equipment and facilities. Thus, state investments are essential to build physical R&D capacity and to stimulate successful private/public research partnerships. Maine state funds, in particular those provided through the Maine Technology Institute, are also used to fund R&D in small and medium sized business. These businesses don’t always have access in the near term to federal R&D funding.
Related

From fiscal year 1996/97 to fiscal year 2010/11, Maine has invested a total of almost $460 million in state funds for R&D. Of this amount, 48.59 percent has supported programs and infrastructure of the University of Maine System, 11.44 percent has supported the Maine Biomedical Research Fund, and 15.80 percent has supported numerous businesses through the Maine Technology Institute.

As a percent of Gross State Product, Maine’s R&D Funding has seen some significant increases from 1997 to 2008. In 1997, Maine’s R&D funding was at a low of 0.012% of gross state product. In 2008, however, the percent had increased to 0.102%. The larger increases, such as in 2003, are reflecting the general obligations bonds that were passed in the state those years.
Sources

State R&D investment was compiled by PolicyOne Research, Inc. from data provided by the Maine Legislature, Office of Fiscal & Program Review.¹²
Endnotes

1 Total R&D includes R&D for all performance sectors including industry, universities and colleges, non-profit institutions, federal government, and federally funded research development centers from all sources of funding. Not-for-profit performed R&D as reported by NSF includes only that which is funded by the federal government. Therefore, this data understates the intensity of not-for-profit performed R&D.

2 This drop in industry R&D from 2005 to 2006 was driven largely by a $68 million drop in the publishing sector and a $58 million drop in the pharmaceuticals and medicines sector; a total drop of $126 million in two sectors alone.

3 Academic Fields of Study are defined as: Engineering (aeronautical and astronontical, bioengineering and biomedical, chemical, civil, electrical, mechanical, metallurgical and materials); Physical Sciences (astronomy, chemistry, physics); Environmental Sciences (atmospheric, earth sciences, oceanography); Mathematical Sciences; Computer Sciences; Life Sciences (agricultural, biological, medical); Psychology; Social Sciences (economics, political science, sociology); unclassified.

4 Academic R&D performance excludes federally funded research and development centers administered by academic institutions, of which Maine has none.

5 Excludes nonprofit federally funded research and development centers administered by academic institutions for which there are none in Maine but that do exist nationally. Also, the not-for-profit data only includes research expenditures funded by the federal government because data from other funding sources is not available on a state basis.

6 The federal R&D data in this section represent obligations as opposed to outlays. According to NSF, obligations represent the amounts for orders placed, contracts awarded, services received, and similar transactions during a given period, regardless of when the funds were appropriated and when future payment of money is required.

7 The increase in 2007 federal funding was driven largely by an increase in Department of Defense funding to Maine industry.

8 This includes federally funded research and development centers (FFRDC’s). These are R&D-performing organizations that are exclusively or substantially financed by the Federal Government and are supported by the Federal Government either to meet a particular R&D objective or, in some instances, to provide major facilities at universities for research and associated training purposes. Each center is administered either by an industrial firm, a university, or another nonprofit institution. Maine has no FFRDC’s. Intramural performers are the agencies of the Federal Government. Their work is carried on directly by federal agency personnel.

9 Includes the obligations of the 10 or 11 major R&D supporting agencies that were requested to report this information; together they represent 96 percent or more of the total R&D obligations.

10 Includes general fund appropriations as well as bonds approved as of November 5, 2010, but doesn’t reflect curtailments and budget adjustments for FY2010-11.

11 Includes Maine Economic Improvement Fund, State Res. Lib. for Business, Science & Technology, Strategic Technology Initiative Program Funding, Debt Service for previous R&D Bonds, and Bonds for the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, USM Bioscience Wing, and Maine Agricultural Research Farms. Includes all campuses within UMaine System.
State R&D investments in Maine include portions of funding within the following program areas:

- University of Maine System
- Maine Technology Institute
- Maine Marine Research Fund
- Maine Biomedical Research Fund
- Maine Applied Technology Development Center System
- Centers for Innovation
- MERITS
- ScienceWorks
- Governor’s Marine Studies Fellowship
- Small Enterprise Growth Fund
- EPSCoR
- Maine Science and Technology Foundation (now defunct)
- Maine Patent Program
- Gulf of Maine Research Laboratory
- NASA Partnership
- Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research
- Schoodic Education and Research Center

This does NOT include funding for the Office of Innovation, the R&D evaluation or the Innovation Index.
INNOVATION CAPACITY

OVERVIEW

Financial investment, knowledge, skill, and creativity form a package of ingredients that foster an innovative business environment. This environment allows people to take risks, create new products and services, and grow their business ventures.

In terms of growing small innovative businesses, Maine regressed during the last year for which data is available on some of the four indicators measured. Maine has dropped from being a leader in 2006 in the area of SBIR/STTR research and has seen a further decrease in the last year. Maine remains below the U.S. and New England average levels of SBIR/STTR funding as a percent of GSP but is now also trailing the level of all EPSCoR states combined.

Maine needs to improve its efforts in terms of attracting venture capital, producing patents, and starting new companies. In the latest years for which data is available, Maine lags New England, the U.S., and EPSCoR states as a whole in generating patents. In the last year, Maine and the EPSCoR states have remained flat while the U.S. and New England have seen slight increases. Maine and the EPSCoR states also continue to lag the nation and New England in attracting venture capital. However, since venture capital is so highly concentrated in just a few states, using U.S. averages can distort Maine’s relative performance in this area. In terms of entrepreneurial activity as measured by persons starting businesses, Maine has seen a decline in the last year after being above all three of the reference groups from 2004 to 2006 and then rebounding in 2008 to lead the reference groups again.

The findings in this index are consistent with the findings in Maine’s Comprehensive Evaluation of State Investments in R&D that Maine needs to continue to improve its ability to transfer knowledge and technology to commercial applications and ventures. Continued state investments in programs including the Maine Patent Program and the Small Enterprise Growth Fund combined with continued R&D support for entrepreneurs through the Maine Technology Institute and the Technology Centers can help Maine address these areas of concern.

indicators:
- SBIR/STTR Funding
- Venture Capital Investments
- Patents Issued
- Entrepreneurial Activity
SBIR/STTR Funding

Summary

Between 2000 and 2009, Maine stayed relatively consistent in SBIR/STTR funding as a percent of gross state product (GSP), with spikes occurring in 2004 and 2006. In 2000, SBIR/STTR funding in Maine represented 0.0082 percent of GSP; in 2009 it represented 0.0060 percent, a drop from 0.0096 percent in 2008. The increase from 2007 to 2008 kept Maine above the levels for the EPSCoR states, but in 2009 Maine fell below the EPSCoR states (0.0086 percent) as well as the level for the U.S. (0.0151 percent) and New England (0.0460 percent). Maine’s national ranking among the states also dropped ten spots from 26th in 2008 to 36th in 2009.

Why This Is Significant

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are important sources of early stage capital for technology-based entrepreneurs. The U.S. Congress established the SBIR program with the purpose of increasing opportunities for small businesses to participate in federal research and development and to stimulate technological innovation. The program funds high-risk R&D that may have commercial potential. It offers a way for small firms to obtain seed money to do the advanced R&D often necessary to enter into new projects. Similarly, Congress created the STTR program to encourage commercialization of university and federal laboratory R&D by small businesses and to foster the development of partnerships between universities and small firms. This type of funding and support is rarely available in the private marketplace, so the programs serve as a critical lifeline for research-intensive small businesses.
These programs are valuable in that they help small businesses build scientific and technical leadership in their industries. In an increasingly competitive marketplace, such leadership is key to innovation and the subsequent sales that innovation brings to small firms. Success in winning SBIR awards also is often helpful in attracting outside capital investments. Finally, success in the SBIR/STTR programs serves as a proxy indicator for Maine’s ability to grow new generations of high-potential entrepreneurs.

Related

In 2009, the SBIR/STTR programs provided more than $2.14 billion nationwide in federally sponsored, early stage capital for entrepreneurial technology-based businesses. In 2009, Maine companies received a total of $3.07 million in SBIR/STTR awards. This represented a decrease of -35.4 percent from 2008. In terms of number of awards, in 2009, Maine received 16 awards, up from 14 in 2008. This indicates that the average award amount was smaller in 2009 than 2008.
Sources

SBIR/STTR data is from the U.S. Small Business Administration, http://web.sba.gov/tech-net/public/dsp_search.cfm

Venture Capital Investments

Summary

In 2009, venture capital investments in Maine were 0.016 percent of gross state product (GSP). This was significantly lower than the New England level of 0.300 percent and the total U.S. level of 0.129 percent for the same year, but above the level for all EPSCoR states combined at 0.009 percent. New England’s high level is skewed by the performance of Massachusetts which remains the second largest state recipient of venture capital investments. Over 61% of all reported venture capital goes to California and Massachusetts. Maine’s venture capital investments as a percentage of GSP have remained relatively low between 2001 and 2009. Maine’s national ranking has dropped slightly from 32nd in 2008 to 34th in 2009.

Why This Is Significant

Venture capital, along with other equity and near equity capital, is a critical source of funding for technology-based startups and companies with high growth potential. States with access to venture capital tend to create technology-based companies at higher than average business formation rate. While the U.S. Federal Reserve reports that less than two percent of small business financing comes from venture capital, this form of capital is significant for companies with the highest growth potential, including technology-based companies. The venture capital industry is highly concentrated in a few states, such as California and Massachusetts. States outside of traditional venture capital centers often have limited access to these funds. As such, it is important for the State to develop ways of attracting interest from venture capitalists in nearby centers such as Boston. Maine’s proximity to the Boston metro area represents a potential competitive advantage in this regard and one which Maine has yet to fully take advantage of.
Related

In 2009, Maine received $8.1 million in venture capital investments. This represented an increase of 98 percent from the Maine 2008 level of $4.1 million. Maine’s $8.1 million in venture capital received in 2009 was part of five deals within the industry classes of biotechnology, consumer products and services, media and entertainment, and software.¹
Venture capital investments data are from MoneyTree Venture Capital Profiles by State; based on PricewaterhouseCooper/Venture Economics/National Venture Capital Association Surveys; http://www.ventureexpert.com/VxComponent/static/stats/2009q3/0MAINMENU.html; data current as of October 2009.

Venture capital invested in Maine by Industry Sector is from http://www.pwcmoneytree.com/

Patents Issued

Summary

The number of patents issued per 1,000 residents of Maine has historically lagged behind the reference groups. In 2009, there were 0.099 patents issued per 1,000 Maine residents in comparison to 0.310 for the U.S. as a whole, 0.502 in New England, and 0.121 among the EPSCoR states. This trend has remained relatively consistent from 1999 through 2004, however, in 2005, Maine improved on this indicator while the reference groups saw a decline. This was reversed in 2006, when Maine had a slight decrease (0.002) while the reference groups all increased. From 2007 to 2009, Maine, as well as the other reference groups, remained relatively flat during this time period. In 2009, Maine’s national ranking remained unchanged from 2008 at 42nd.

Why This Is Significant

Patent activity indicates the level of innovative thinking and research that eventually may lead to commercialization of new products and services. Individuals and companies seek patent protection in anticipation of the commercial value and marketability of their new ideas. In 2000, Maine created the Maine Patent Program to provide patent assistance to businesses and individuals. This program has served over 700 business and individuals since its inception.
Related

Between 2005 and 2009, there were a total of 634 utility patents – that is, patents for inventions issued to Maine residents. The largest percent of these fell within the classification entitled “chemistry: molecular biology and microbiology,” which accounted for 4.89 percent. Other significant utility classes in Maine since 2005 include special receptacle or package; communications: radio wave antennas; and active solid-state devices.

Utility Patents Issued by Technology Class in Maine 2005-09 – Top Classes

- Chemistry: Molecular Biology and Microbiology: 31 patents
- Special Receptacle or Package: 18 patents
- Communications: Radio Wave Antennas: 17 patents
- Active Solid-State Devices (e.g., Transistors, Solid-State Diodes): 16 patents
- Miscellaneous Active Electrical Nonlinear Devices, Circuits, and Systems: 15 patents
- Drug, Bio-Affecting and Body Treating Compositions (includes Class 514): 15 patents
- Semiconductor Device Manufacturing: Process: 15 patents
- Animal Husbandry: 11 patents
- Liquid Purification or Separation: 11 patents
- Electricity: Electrical Systems and Devices: 10 patents
- Rotary Kinetic Fluid Motors or Pumps: 10 patents
- Measuring and Testing: 9 patents
- Wave Transmission Lines and Networks: 9 patents
- Optics: Measuring and Testing: 9 patents
- Chemical Apparatus and Process Disinfecting, Deodorizing, Preserving, or Sterilizing: 9 patents
- Stock Material or Miscellaneous Articles: 9 patents
- Chemistry: Analytical and Immunological Testing: 9 patents

Total Utility Patents Granted from 2005-09 to Maine Residents = 634

# of Patents Granted 2005-09
Patents Issued (all types) in Maine 2000-09

Sources

Total patents issued was from “Patent Counts by Country/State and Year, All Patents, All Types,” January 1, 1977-December 31, 2009; by Calendar Year; US Patent and Trade Mark Office; http://www.uspto.gov/

Utility patent data were from “Patenting by Geographic Region (State and Country), Breakout by Technology Class, 2005-2009 Utility Patent Grants by Calendar Year of Grant,” U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; www.uspto.gov

Entrepreneurial Activity

Summary

Based on the Kaufman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity (KIEA), between 2004 and 2008, Maine has proven to be a strong competitor when compared to the other reference groups. However, in 2009 Maine has come back to the pack and is even or slightly ahead of the reference groups. This indicator measures the percent of persons within the general population who have recently started a business. As such, the KIEA data measures the number of non-business owners who started a business each month. From 2004 through 2006 Maine performed slightly above average compared to U.S., New England, and other EPSCoR states, yet in 2007 the state experienced a significant decline, falling to 0.27 percent. In 2008, Maine rebounded to an index score of 0.38 percent which placed it higher than the reference groups. In 2009, Maine fell back to 0.34 percent tying it with the U.S. while staying just ahead of New England (0.32 percent) and the EPSCoR states (0.31%). Maine, as a state, has dropped from 11th in the nation on this indicator in 2008 to 21st in 2009.

Why This Is Significant

Entrepreneurial activity measures the willingness of persons to take risks and grow a business. This measure helps assess the entrepreneurial propensities of Maine residents: do they have an interest and desire to start a business? Are resources and support networks readily available for those likely to take the entrepreneurial leap? A strong
regional economy provides an environment that encourages this risk taking and supports the efforts to start and grow businesses. Maine has put in place a host of programs to encourage and support entrepreneurs in science and technology in the areas of financing, technical services, networking, marketing, and business development.

Sources

Estimates calculated by Robert W. Fairlie, University of California, Santa Cruz, using the Current Population Survey and reported in “Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity”; Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation; www.kauffman.org/researchandpolicy/entrepreneurship-data.aspx
Endnotes

1 Amounts for Venture Capital Invested in Maine by Industry Sector are less than total venture capital amounts for the state due to rounding that was done by the source for the data.

2 The residence of the first-named inventor determines the origin of a patent.

3 The utility patent data excludes design patents, plant patents, reissues, defensive publications, and statutory inventions registrations.

4 Entrepreneurial activity is the percent of individuals (ages 20–64) who do not own a business in the first survey month that start a business in the following month with fifteen or more hours worked per week.
EMPLOYMENT & OUTPUT CAPACITY

OVERVIEW

In some ways, it is difficult to speak of technology industries nowadays as nearly every industry sector has heavy reliance on technology. However, Maine has targeted specific technology related sectors for investment and growth. They include Advanced Technologies for Forestry and Agriculture, Aquaculture and Marine Technologies, Advanced Materials and Composites, Energy and Environment, Information Technologies, Precision Manufacturing, and Biotechnology.

Employment and business growth are primary economic outcome measures. In Maine, between 2006 and 2010, total employment in the targeted technology sectors dropped by 4.7 percent. Details on employment indicate that job loss in the targeted technology sectors was driven by losses in the sectors of forest products and agriculture, information technology, and composites and advanced materials, with forests products and agriculture alone accounting for 68.3 percent of the job losses among the targeted technology sectors. The employment numbers in these targeted technology sectors in Maine are cause for concern in the State’s effort to transform and grow its innovation economy.

Workforce data signifies a need for the state to strengthen its labor market in the areas of science and technology. In terms of occupations that are specifically related to science and engineering, in 2008, there were an estimated 17,000 science and engineering (S&E) occupations in Maine’s workforce. On a per total worker basis, this ratio was lower than that of the New England states and the U.S. as a whole but on par with the EPSCoR states.

At the highest technical levels, Ph.D. recipients represent the underpinnings of an R&D based workforce. In 2006, there were an estimated 2,350 doctoral scientists and engineers in Maine’s labor force. On a per total worker basis, Maine was slightly higher than the level in the EPSCoR states for the same year, but trailed New England and the nation as a whole.

Gross state product and per capita income are the end outcome indicators for investing in research and development and supporting technology intensive industries. Between 2008 and 2009, Maine’s gross state product growth was higher than the EPSCoR states, New England, and the U.S. as a whole. In 2009, Maine’s per capita income was below that of all the New England states and the U.S. as a whole but on par with the EPSCoR states. Taken together these two indicators point out that Maine has yet to reap the full potential of a technology-intensive economy.
Summary

Between 2009 and 2010, total average employment in Maine’s targeted technology sectors remained flat at 0.0 percent. This compared to a change in total employment in the U.S. in the same targeted technology sectors of -1.7 percent. The total of all sectors in Maine experienced a decrease in employment of -0.7 percent and the U.S. saw a decrease of -0.6 percent. During this period, composites & advanced materials (4.3 percent), precision manufacturing (2.8 percent), and biotechnology (1.0 percent) experienced growth. Engineering & scientific/technical services (-4.7 percent) and environmental & energy (-4.1 percent) showed the largest declines. Over the five year period from 2006 to 2010, the total average employment number in Maine in the targeted technology sectors declined by 4.7 percent compared to a decrease of -0.9 percent for all sectors in Maine. In the five year period 2006-10, the marine technology & aquaculture (18.6 percent) and biotechnology (11.5 percent) sectors were the only sectors to show positive growth in employment. Composites & advanced materials (-20.5 percent) outpaced all other sectors in negative growth with information technology (-7.9 percent) and forest products & agriculture (-6.8 percent) also showing negative growth rates.

Percent Change in Average Annual Employment - Maine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>% chg 2006-10</th>
<th>% chg 2009-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composites &amp; Advanced Materials</td>
<td>-20.5%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Scientific/Technical Services</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
<td>-2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental &amp; Energy</td>
<td>-4.1%</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Products &amp; Agriculture</td>
<td>-6.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>-7.9%</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Technology &amp; Aquaculture</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>-0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precision Manufacturing</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Maine Tech Sectors</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Total All Sectors</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
<td>-0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total U.S. Tech Sectors</td>
<td>-8.6%</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Total All Sectors</td>
<td>-1.4%</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why This Is Significant

Technology job growth is an outcome indicator of Maine’s ability to build, recruit and retain an educated and technically skilled workforce. It measures the level of employment opportunity created by the Maine economy. Technology jobs typically pay higher wages than non-technology related jobs. Therefore, employment growth in technology-intensive businesses helps increase the standard of living among Maine residents. Maine has targeted these sectors for investment and growth and therefore over time they should be outperforming other sectors.

Related

From 2009 to 2010, of the targeted technology sectors, the U.S. showed gains in average annual employment only in the biotechnology sector (0.4 percent). Over the five-year period from 2006 to 2010, the U.S. experienced gains in average annual employment in the following targeted technology sectors: biotechnology, engineering and scientific/technical services, environmental and energy, and information technology. Also during this five-year period, the U.S. saw decreases in employment in the following sectors: composites and advanced materials, forest products and agriculture, marine technology and aquaculture, and precision manufacturing.
In terms of actual employment change between 2006 and 2010, Maine’s targeted technology sectors had a net change of 3,454 jobs lost. This net loss was the result of a loss of 4,074 jobs in the sectors of composites and advanced materials, engineering and scientific/technical services, environment and energy, forest products and agriculture, information technology, and precision manufacturing. Among these sectors, forest products and agriculture accounted for 68.3 percent of the job loss. During this period 644 combined jobs were gained in the sectors of biotechnology and marine technology and aquaculture with biotechnology accounting for 96.6 percent of the jobs gained.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster Summary - Employment Change 2006-10</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th># Change 2006-10</th>
<th>% of 2006-10 Losses</th>
<th>% of 2006-10 Gains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
<td>5,411</td>
<td>5,743</td>
<td>5,935</td>
<td>5,976</td>
<td>6,033</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>96.58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composites &amp; Advanced Materials</td>
<td>1,529</td>
<td>1,588</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>-314</td>
<td>7.71%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering &amp; Scientific/Technical Services</td>
<td>4,539</td>
<td>4,681</td>
<td>4,868</td>
<td>4,642</td>
<td>4,422</td>
<td>-117</td>
<td>2.87%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental &amp; Energy</td>
<td>1,713</td>
<td>1,890</td>
<td>1,953</td>
<td>1,768</td>
<td>1,695</td>
<td>-18</td>
<td>0.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest Products &amp; Agriculture</td>
<td>40,826</td>
<td>40,561</td>
<td>40,439</td>
<td>38,028</td>
<td>38,043</td>
<td>-2,783</td>
<td>68.31%</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>9,080</td>
<td>9,180</td>
<td>9,132</td>
<td>8,498</td>
<td>8,365</td>
<td>-715</td>
<td>17.55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine Technology &amp; Aquaculture</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>3.42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precision Manufacturing</td>
<td>11,082</td>
<td>10,862</td>
<td>11,525</td>
<td>10,653</td>
<td>10,955</td>
<td>-127</td>
<td>3.12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Maine Tech Sectors</td>
<td>74,157</td>
<td>74,467</td>
<td>75,381</td>
<td>70,710</td>
<td>70,703</td>
<td>-3,454</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tech Sectors Jobs Lost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-4,074</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tech Sectors Jobs Gained</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>644</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tech Sectors Jobs Net</td>
<td>(3,430)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Total Maine Tech Sectors does not equal Total Tech Sectors Jobs Net and it’s components due to duplicate industries included in the individual industry sectors and not in Total Maine Tech Sectors

In terms of wage levels, the average wage per worker in 2010 varied considerably from sector to sector. Engineering & scientific/technical services ranked the highest with an average wage of $69,049 followed closely by biotechnology at $66,746 while Marine Technology came in the lowest at an average wage of $33,077. The average wage of all of Maine’s targeted technology sectors was $49,053 which was higher than Maine as a whole at $36,317. However, this was lower than both the U.S. targeted technology sectors at $68,291 and the U.S. total average of $50,104.
TARGETED TECHNOLOGY SECTOR EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

Sources

Data from Economic Modeling Specialist Inc.; EMSI Complete Employment - 3rd Quarter 2010; http://economic-modeling.com/

Data for Animal Aquaculture (NAICS Code 1125) is from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment Wages; http://www.bls.gov/cew/
Science and Engineering Occupations in the Workforce

Summary

In 2008, there were an estimated 17,000 science and engineering (S&E) occupations in Maine’s workforce. This represented 24.83 S&E occupations for every 1,000 Maine workers which lagged behind the U.S. as a whole (39.46) and New England (49.84), but was on par with the EPSCoR states (25.21). Maine improved one spot in national ranking from 44th in 2006 to 43rd in 2008.

Why This Is Significant

A labor market of scientists and engineers is essential to creating a vibrant research, development, and technology enterprise. There is a direct correlation between the percent of the labor force in science and engineering occupations and the growth and health of the innovation-based industries. This indicator is a measure of the state’s ability to attract and retain highly skilled and highly educated workers who are critical to an innovation driven economy.

Related

In 2008, the largest percent (45.1 percent) of S&E occupations in the Maine workforce were computer specialist occupations. This was followed by engineers at 26.4 percent, and life and physical scientists at 16.2 percent. All other S&E occupations accounted for 12.4 percent. In relation to the reference groups, Maine had a higher concentration of occupations in life and physical sciences and all other S&E occupations.
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING OCCUPATIONS IN THE WORKFORCE

Scientists & Engineers in the Workforce by Occupation – 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>United States (Total)</th>
<th>Maine</th>
<th>New England (Total)</th>
<th>EPSCoR (Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Other S&amp;E</td>
<td>5,781,460</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>374,200</td>
<td>541,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Specialists</td>
<td>55.32%</td>
<td>45.06%</td>
<td>51.52%</td>
<td>50.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life and Physical Scientists</td>
<td>10.74%</td>
<td>16.18%</td>
<td>11.61%</td>
<td>12.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>28.13%</td>
<td>26.35%</td>
<td>26.60%</td>
<td>35.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total S&amp;E’s in Workforce</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources


Ph.D. Scientists and Engineers in the Labor Force

Summary

In 2006, there were an estimated 2,350 doctoral scientists and engineers in Maine’s labor force. This represented 3.4 doctoral scientists and engineers for every 1,000 Maine workers and was slightly higher than the level in the EPS-CoR states (3.1) for the same year. However, Maine lagged behind New England and the nation as a whole. In 2006 New England had 6.9 employed doctoral scientists and engineers per 1,000 workers and the U.S. had employed 4.2.

Why This Is Significant

Doctoral level researchers design and lead the research and development programs that generate new products, processes, technologies, and services. They also build vital linkages between Maine business and institutions with international R&D expertise. This indicator measures Maine’s ability to attract and retain Ph.D. level workers.
Related

Both Maine and the U.S. states have about a quarter of the Ph.D. scientists and engineers in the workforce whose field of study was in the biological, agricultural & environmental life science field. The U.S. has a higher concentration of Ph.D. scientists and engineers from the engineering field and the computer & information science, math & statistics fields. Maine has a higher concentration of Ph.D. scientists and engineers from social science and psychology fields.

**PH.D. Scientists & Engineers in the Workforce by Field of Study**

**U.S. – 2006**

- Bio, agri, & environ life science 24.0%
- Engineering 16.4%
- Health 4.0%
- Physical sciences 17.4%
- Computer & info science, Math & Statistics 11.1%
- Social science 12.3%
- Psychology 14.8%

**Total PH.D Scientists & Engineers in the Workforce: 621,630**
In addition to Maine having a higher level of Ph.D. scientists and engineers from the field of studies of social sciences and psychology, it also has a higher level of Ph.D. scientists and engineers working in those occupations compared to the United States as a whole, the New England States and the EPSCoR States. Maine lags behind the reference groups in the areas of physical sciences, computer & information and math sciences, engineering occupations, and science & engineering related occupations. Maine has a higher concentration of non-science and non-engineering based occupations.
Ph.D. Scientists and Engineers in the Workforce by Occupation – 2006

Sources


**Gross State Product Growth**

**Summary**

Between 2008 and 2009, Maine’s gross state product (GSP) grew 0.55 percent, a level that was higher than the EPSCoR states, New England, and the U.S. which all saw declines in one-year GSP growth. During this same period, GSP declined -0.80 percent among the EPSCoR states, -0.19 percent in New England, and -1.35 percent in the U.S. as a whole. Maine is still behind the EPSCoR states and New England but has narrowed the gap and is now also on par with the U.S. in the five-year trend. In the ten-year trend, Maine is still ahead of New England, slightly below the U.S., and trailing the EPSCoR states average. In this area, Maine had a ranking of 12th in GSP growth for the last year, which was up from the previous year’s ranking of 25th. This improvement in rank is less a reflection of Maine’s strong performance, but instead, it results from weaknesses in other state economies with 30 states showing declines in one-year growth of GSP.

**Why This Is Significant**

Gross state product is a comprehensive indicator of statewide total economic output. Growth in GSP relative to other states indicates a strengthening of a state’s overall economy.
Related

In 2009 Maine’s GSP exceeded $51 billion. After a slow growth period in the early 1990’s, GSP has since experienced steady growth in Maine until this last year.

Sources

Per Capita Income

Summary

In 2009, Maine’s per capita income was $36,479. This was on par with the EPSCoR states level of $36,553 and remained below that of the U.S. as a whole ($39,626) and the New England level of ($48,049). Since 1990, Maine and the EPSCoR states have followed the same trend and have remained below the United States as a whole and the New England states. The growth has remained relatively steady across all of the reference groups over this period of time until this last year where all four reference groups have had either no growth or negative growth. Maine’s ranking has increased from 34th in 2008 to 31st in 2009.

Why This Is Significant

While GSP measures comprehensive economic performance, income is an indicator of individual wealth. It is in this sense that per capita income is the ultimate end outcome for investing in science and technology: increasing personal wealth and therefore quality of life. PCI is the true bottom line measure of a state’s prosperity.
PER CAPITA INCOME

Related

Between 2008 and 2009 Maine’s per capita income decreased by -0.1 percent, this was less of a decrease than all the reference groups. During this same period, per capita income in the U.S. as a whole and New England decreased -2.6 percent, and the EPSCoR states combined decreased -2.0 percent. Maine trailed only the EPSCoR states over both the 5 and 10-year periods, growing at 14.0 percent from 2005 to 2009 and 36.6 percent from 2000 to 2009.

Sources

Per capita income is from Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce; http://www.bea.gov. All dollar estimates are in current dollars (not adjusted for inflation). Revised state personal income estimates were released September 20, 2010.
## Endnotes

1 Definition of Targeted Technology Sectors is from Maine Office of Innovation and is based on targeted sectors identified by State Legislature in late 1990’s and further defined by Statewide Cluster Analyses in 2002 and 2008, most recently reported in: Maine’s Technology Sectors and Clusters: Status and Strategy; Maine Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Southern Maine; Battelle Technology Partnership Practice, Battelle Institute; Planning Decisions Inc; and PolicyOne Research, March 2008. To this definition engineering and other scientific/technical was added as it relates to most of the tech sectors. They include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAICS Description</th>
<th>NAICS Code</th>
<th>Cluster Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing</td>
<td>3254</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing</td>
<td>325411</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing</td>
<td>325412</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing</td>
<td>325413</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Product (except Diagnostic) Manufacturing</td>
<td>325414</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electromedical apparatus manufacturing</td>
<td>334510</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical laboratory instrument mfg.</td>
<td>334516</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irradiation apparatus manufacturing</td>
<td>334517</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical equipment and supplies manufacturing</td>
<td>3391</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical and Medical Instrument Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Biotechnology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Appliance and Supplies Manufacturing</td>
<td>339113</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing</td>
<td>339114</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ophthalmic Goods Manufacturing</td>
<td>339115</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Laboratories</td>
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<td>Physical, engineering and biological research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Development in Biotechnology</td>
<td>541711</td>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Biotechnology)</td>
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<td>Medical laboratories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagnostic imaging centers</td>
<td>621512</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resin, rubber, and artificial fibers mfg.</td>
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<td>Composites &amp; Advanced Materials</td>
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<td>Plastics Material and Resin Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Synthetic Rubber Manufacturing</td>
<td>325212</td>
<td>Composites &amp; Advanced Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cellulosic Organic Fiber Manufacturing</td>
<td>325221</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noncellulosic Organic Fiber Manufacturing</td>
<td>325222</td>
<td>Composites &amp; Advanced Materials</td>
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<td>Boat building</td>
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<td>Water, sewage and other systems</td>
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<td>Environmental &amp; Energy</td>
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<td>Water Supply and Irrigation Systems</td>
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<td>Sewage Treatment Facilities</td>
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<td>Steam and Air-Conditioning Supply</td>
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<td>Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal</td>
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<td>Solid Waste Landfill</td>
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<td>Solid Waste Combustors and Incinerators</td>
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<td>Other Nonhazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal</td>
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<td>Forest Products &amp; Agriculture</td>
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<td>Timber Tract Operations</td>
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<td>Forest Nurseries and Gathering of Forest Products</td>
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<td>Logging</td>
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<td>Reconstituted Wood Product Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Wood Window and Door Manufacturing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cut Stock, Resawing Lumber, and Planing</td>
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<td>Other Millwork (including Flooring)</td>
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<td>Wood Container and Pallet Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Manufactured Home (Mobile Home) Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Prefabricated Wood Building Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Corrugated and Solid Fiber Box Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Fiber Can, Tube, Drum, and Similar Products Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Nonfolding Sanitary Food Container Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Coated and Laminated Packaging Paper Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Laminated Paper Bag and Pouch Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Surface-Coated Paperboard Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Envelope Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Stationery, Tablet, and Related Product Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Furniture and related product manufacturing</td>
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<td>Nonupholstered Wood Household Furniture Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Institutional Furniture Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Wood Television, Radio, and Sewing Machine Cabinet Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Custom Architectural Woodwork and Millwork Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Support activities for crop production</td>
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<td>Cotton Ginning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soil Preparation, Planting, and Cultivating</td>
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<td>Crop Harvesting, Primarily by Machine</td>
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<td>Postharvest Crop Activities (except Cotton Ginning)</td>
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<td>Farm Labor Contractors and Crew Leaders</td>
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<td>Farm Management Services</td>
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<td>Support activities for animal production</td>
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2 S&E occupations are defined by NSF as 77 standard occupational codes that encompass mathematical, computer, life, physical, and social scientists; engineers; and postsecondary teachers in any of these S&E fields. People with job titles such as manager are excluded.
EDUCATION CAPACITY
OVERVIEW

When asked about issues that have the greatest impact on business and economic development, business owners, economic developers, and site locators consistently rank the availability of a skilled and educated workforce as their top concern. Moreover, technology and innovation based companies require workers with advanced skills and education in math and sciences.

Success in developing math and science skills begins at the K-12 level. Maine eighth grade students continue to perform well relative to other states in math and science, but their competitive advantage has decreased somewhat from where they had been in previous years. Maine’s average math score in 2009 on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) placed its eighth graders 19th in the nation; down from the 2007 level of 12th. In 2005, Maine eighth graders turned in the 9th highest science scores in the country on the NAEP.

Today’s science and technology intensive careers demand an education level beyond that of a high school level. In terms of advancing twelfth graders onto higher education, in 2008 Maine performed at a slightly lower level than 2006 but at a much higher level than previous years. In terms of college enrollment among 19 year-olds, Maine came in slightly below the level of New England but above both the EPSCoR States and U.S.

Supporting a vibrant technology and innovation economy requires a regular supply of workers with college and advanced degrees in science and engineering related fields. With regard to science and engineering enrollments and science and engineering degrees awarded, Maine has shown improvement but still lags the nation, New England, and EPSCoR states. Whether this is more of a demand or supply issue or both is beyond the reach of this Index. However it is clear that Maine need to do more to increase science and engineering higher education particularly at the advanced levels.

Finally, with regard to the adult population, Maine has jumped back up from a drop in 2008. Compared to the reference groups, Maine was the only one that saw a significant increase from 2008 to 2009 on this indicator. In 2009, 26.9 percent of Maine’s population twenty five years and older held four-year college degrees or more, up from 25.4 percent in 2008. In 2009 the level for the US as a whole was 27.9 percent, for New England, it was 32.7 percent, and for the EPSCoR states 24.0 percent.
Math and Science Skills of Students

Summary

The National Assessment of Educational Progress, (NAEP) provides data to allow a comparison of education achievement across states. On the 2009 NAEP mathematics test, Maine eighth graders scored 286\(^1\). This was higher than in 2005 (281) and the same as in 2007 (286).\(^2\) Maine’s score in 2005 placed its eighth graders at 20th in the nation; the 2007 score (286) elevated Maine students to 12th in the nation; however the ranking slipped to 19th in 2009. In 2009, Maine eighth graders came in slightly behind the scaled score of the other New England states (289), and scored higher than the US average scaled score (282) and that of the EPSCoR states (280).

On the 2005 NAEP science test, Maine eighth graders turned in the ninth highest science scores in the country. Maine’s average score was 158 compared to 147 for the US, 157 for New England, and 148 for the EPSCoR states.\(^3\)
Why This Is Significant

As technology becomes a part of most jobs, proficiency in both math and science is a fundamental requirement, especially for technology-related industries. The NEAP helps to measure performance in math and science among eighth graders in Maine and because it is conducted nationally allows comparisons among states.

Sources

Higher Education Enrollment among Young People

Summary

In 2008, Maine 19 year-olds had a 48.2 percent chance of being enrolled in post-secondary education. Chance for college is based on public high school graduation rates (high school graduates divided by the number of 9th grade enrollments 4 years prior) and the college continuation rate (number of fall freshman enrolled anywhere in the U.S. who were high school graduates the previous spring). This represents a 0.4 percent decrease from the state’s 2006 level of 48.6 percent. On this indicator in 2008, Maine performed just below the level of the New England states (49.9 percent), but above the U.S. levels (44.0 percent) and the EPSCoR states (43.3 percent).

Why This Is Significant

Higher education attainment among the population is increasingly important if Maine is to develop a technology-intensive economy that promotes personal economic well-being. The extent to which young adults complete high school and continue to higher education is an indicator of aspirations among young adults, accessibility of higher education, and future potential education attainment.
Related

Chance for college at the end of high school is a factor of both high school graduation and college continuation rates. In 2008, Maine’s public high school graduation rate was 78.7 percent. This was similar to the New England average of 78.6 percent and higher than that for the U.S. as a whole (69.5 percent) and the EPSCoR states (69.9 percent).

In 2004, Maine’s college continuation rate was 49.6 percent, but in 2006 it increased significantly to 64.6 percent and moved Maine from lower than all the reference groups to being on top. Since 2006, Maine has slipped somewhat to a level of 61.3 percent in 2008 while the other reference groups have all shown increases and have passed Maine with the U.S. at 63.3 percent, New England at 63.9 percent, and the EPSCoR states at 62.1 percent.
Sources

Science and Engineering Graduate Enrollments

Summary

In 2008, Maine had 831 graduate students enrolled in science and engineering programs. This represented 0.63 enrolled graduate students per 1,000 residents. On this indicator in 2008, Maine significantly lagged the indices of the US (2.06), New England (3.18), and EPSCoR (1.60).

Why This Is Significant

The extent to which Maine colleges and universities are awarding science and engineering degrees is an indicator of both the science and technical capacity of the state’s postsecondary schools and the potential for workers with science and technical abilities among Maine’s workforce. Both of these are fundamental requirements for developing a solid foundation for research and long-term, technology-driven innovation. The National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Council of Graduate Schools also emphasize the importance of graduate level studies in these disciplines: “The goal that national science workforce policy seeks or needs to maximize is to produce high quality researchers as quickly and cheaply as possible. [It] emphasized that graduates enrolled in science and engineering fields more than those enrolled in other disciplines would likely remain connected to their chosen field: Most master’s recipients [in science and engineering disciplines] were continuing in science and engineering-related employment or education…and those recipients with the highest GPAs were much more likely than other master’s recipients to stay in science and engineering fields.”

...
Related

Maine colleges and universities were host to 831 students who were pursuing graduate degrees in science and engineering disciplines in 2008. This is an increase not just over the five-year period since 2004, but also over the ten-year period since 1999 when 704 students studied graduate level degrees in science and engineering disciplines.

Sources


Science and Engineering Degrees Awarded

Summary

In 2009, Maine colleges and universities awarded 4,151 degrees in science and engineering disciplines. This represented 3.15 science and engineering degrees per 1,000 Maine residents. Despite Maine’s increase in science and engineering degrees awarded, this increase has been slower than that of the other reference groups. In 2009, Maine’s level was lower than the national level of 3.62, the New England level of 3.71, and the EPSCoR level of 3.56. This is also reflected in Maine’s national ranking slipping from 35th in 2008 to 38th in 2009.

Why This Is Significant

The extent to which Maine colleges and universities are awarding science and engineering degrees is an indicator of both the science and technical capacity of the state’s postsecondary schools and the potential for workers with science and technical abilities among Maine’s workforce. Both of these are fundamental requirements for developing a solid foundation for research and long-term, technology-driven innovation.
Related

Of the 4,151 science and engineering degrees awarded in Maine in 2009, 651, or 15.7 percent, were masters degrees or higher. The growing importance of advanced degrees was reflected in the award trend data: the number of graduate degrees (masters or higher) awarded in science and technology has increased steadily from a level of 14.8 percent in 2000.
In terms of the academic disciplines in which degrees were awarded by Maine and the U.S. in 2009, compared to the U.S. Maine had a higher concentration in life sciences and lower concentrations in engineering, science and engineering technologies, and math and computer sciences.

**Sources**


Education Attainment

Summary

After years of steady progress and increases, Maine had started to slip on this indicator over the previous two years. However, in 2009, 26.9 percent of Maine’s population twenty five years and older held four-year college degrees or more, up from 25.4 percent in 2008. In 2009 Maine ranked 24th highest in the country on this indicator, an increase from their ranking of 33rd in 2008. In 2009, the level for the U.S. as a whole was 27.9 percent, for New England, it was 32.7 percent, and for the EPSCoR states, 24.0 percent.

Why This Is Significant

Analysis conducted by the Maine State Planning Office as part of 30/1000 Initiative reveals that the economic well-being of a state is strongly tied to two factors: (1) the percent of the population with a bachelor’s degree or higher, and (2) the level of expenditures for research and development. This analysis is supported by national research.\(^7\) Wages are typically higher in technology-intensive industries; these are the same industries that increasingly require workers with higher education degrees. In terms of income of the average person, income levels are considerably higher for persons with college and advanced degrees.
In terms of the percentage of the population 25 years and older who have graduated from high school in 2009, Maine ranks 10th among all states. Maine’s percentage of 90.2 percent placed Maine higher than the nation as a whole (85.3 percent), the New England states (89.1 percent), and the EPSCoR states (86.5 percent).
Sources

Endnotes

1 Math scale scores range from 0-500.

2 Accommodations are permitted in 2000 and beyond. Accommodations are related to assessing students with disabilities and/or students for whom English is not their first language. For 1996 and prior, no accommodations were permitted.

3 Science scale scores range from 0-300.

4 Chance for college by age 19 is calculated by the Mortenson Research Seminar on Public Policy Analysis of Opportunity for Postsecondary Education and equals the product of the public high school graduation rate and the college continuation rate. Public high school graduation rate equals high school graduates divided by the number of 9th grade enrollments 4 years prior, data is based on “Public Elementary and Secondary Education Statistics,” National Center for Education Statistics, www.nces.ed.gov. College continuation rate equals the number of fall freshman enrolled anywhere in the U.S. who were high school graduates the previous spring. The data is from the biannual Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, National Center for Education Statistics, www.nces.ed.gov.


6 Degrees and awards earned but not yet conferred by branch institutions located in foreign countries, and of an honorary nature are not included; Includes the science fields of engineering, physical sciences, geosciences, math and computer sciences, life sciences, medical sciences, and science and engineering technologies; Excludes psychology, social sciences, and interdisciplinary sciences; Includes associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, first professional, and doctorate level degrees and certificates

CONNECTIVITY CAPACITY

OVERVIEW

The Internet has transformed every segment of society, from families to schools to businesses, from communities to states and nations. The ability to use the Internet represents the ability to connect, communicate, and participate directly in innovation. In today’s digital economy, broadband access is becoming as important to business success as more traditional infrastructure such as roads and water and sewer facilities.

Maine’s experience with connectivity varies. Relative to the U.S. as a whole and the EPSCoR states, Maine households have higher access to the Internet. However in terms of high speed access, Maine has fewer high speed Internet lines per 1,000 residents than its U.S. and New England counterparts.

In terms of classroom connectivity, fueled by the laptop initiative and local and state investments in technology, Maine continues to be a leader with more Internet computers per student and greater use of computers and the Internet by teachers compared to the reference groups.
Household Connectivity

Summary
In 2009, 61.3 percent of Maine households had broadband access to the Internet. Maine was behind New England (68.0 percent) and the U.S. as a whole (63.1 percent) but had a higher percentage than the EPSCoR states (59.2 percent). Although Maine has made progress in this area, Maine’s national ranking has fallen from 30th in 2007 to 34th in 2009.

Why This Is Significant
Household Internet access provides citizens with the opportunity to utilize the Internet for business, education, and personal uses 24 hours a day. The Internet is gaining increasing significance as a means of information exchange, communications, business transactions and research. This indicator measures the ease with which Maine citizens can access this information tool compared to the rest of the nation.

Sources
High Speed Internet Access

Summary

Maine has seen a significant increase in broadband Internet subscribers, from 26,266 in 2000 to 428,904 in 2008. This represented an increase of over 1,500 percent. However, relative to the reference groups, Maine had fewer subscribers per 1,000 residents. In 2008, there were 325 Internet lines per 1,000 residents in Maine compared to 436 in the U.S. as a whole, 385 in the EPSCoR states and 507 in New England per 1,000 residents. Maine has seen its national ranking slip from 42nd to 45th in the last year.

Why This Is Significant

The degree to which broadband technology is available and used in Maine determines, to a significant extent, the degree to which Maine is technologically competitive. For instance, companies that rely on e-commerce for sales transactions, require broadband technology. Likewise, entities engaged in research and development require high capacity communications technology. Moreover, the rise of Internet video and other technologies, including both consumer uses and business tools, places more demand on Internet traffic. Using these new tools and technologies is almost impossible without broadband access.

According to the American Electronics Association, an organization of more than 3,000 companies engaged in aspects of high technology, “Widespread broadband deployment will have a positive effect on many areas of everyday life, ranging from communications, entertainment, and healthcare to education and job training.”
In terms of the method of high speed Internet access used in Maine in 2008, cable is dominant with 46 percent of high speed lines compared to 29 percent for digital subscriber lines (DSL).  

**Sources**

Classroom Connectivity

Summary

Maine continues to be a leader with regard to access to computers and the Internet in the classroom. In 2006, there were 1.94 students per Internet connected computer in Maine compared to 3.65 in the U.S. as a whole, 3.44 in New England, and 3.40 among EPSCoR states. Maine’s program to provide a laptop to every 7th grade student made it one of a few states in the nation with classroom laptop programs.

Why This Is Significant

The Internet provides access to research and information that can enhance classroom curriculum at every grade level. Easy access to Internet-connected computers is needed for teachers to effectively incorporate information technologies into the learning environment. Computer literacy is increasingly becoming a minimum requirement of employers.

Sources

Student to computer ratios are from Technology Counts 2000-2006, Education Week; http://edweek.org
Endnotes

1 Source data for this indicator changed in the latest year so historical trends are not available.

2 “Broadband” is defined as high-speed data lines that provide the subscriber with data transmissions at speeds in excess of 200 kilobits per second (kbps) in at least one direction.

3 “Subscriber” is equivalent to a line in service. An active line may have one or more users.

4 The mutually exclusive types of technology are, respectively: Asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) technologies, which provide speeds in one direction greater than speeds in the other direction; symmetric digital subscriber line (SDSL) technologies; traditional wire line technologies “other” than ADSL and SDSL, including traditional telephone company high-speed services that provide equivalent functionality; cable modem, including the typical hybrid fiber-coax (HFC) architecture of upgraded cable TV systems; optical fiber to the subscriber’s premises (e.g., Fiber-to-the-Home, or FTTH); satellite and fixed and mobile terrestrial wireless systems, which use radio spectrum to communicate with a radio transmitter; and electric power line.

5 In 2005, indicator was changed from “internet” connected computer to “high-speed internet” connected computer
About PolicyOne Research

Since 2003, PolicyOne has annually produced Maine’s Innovation Index and managed Maine’s Evaluation of State Investments in Research and Development. PolicyOne provides clients with a full range of services within the areas of economic and community development, science and technology based economic development, program and service evaluation, state and local government fiscal analysis, and survey design and analysis (including PolicyOne’s own online survey system).

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