

EDUCATE MAINE HAS BEEN TRACKING PROGRESS ON MAINE'S EDUCATION SYSTEM FOR OVER A DECADE.

Education is the backbone of Maine's communities. While Maine has made progress on many indicators over the years, there are many areas that together we must monitor and work together to improve. Here are some quick facts:

PreK-12

- **170,000** publicly funded attending students
- Enrollment down **6%** over the past decade
- **264** districts (SAUs)
- **565** schools

Demographics

Maine's schools are more diverse than the state as a whole. In general, student needs are increasing.



45% economically disadvantaged



15% students of color



20% special education

Maine has seen notable increases in the populations of **homeless students (2%)** and **multilingual learners (5%)** over the past 10 years.

Context for Learning

The pandemic deeply shaped young people in Maine, including their experiences in school and in community.



24% of students are **chronically absent**



33% feel sad or hopeless



50% feel like they don't matter in their community

Learning Outcomes

Across all standardized assessments, Maine students have been losing ground in recent years.

64% of all Maine students were **at or above expectations in reading** in 2024-25

49% of all Maine students were **at or above expectations in math** in 2024-25

88% of students **graduate from high school** in 4 years

**These figures are based on the Maine Through Year Assessments, administered to all students in grades 3-8 and grade 10*

MAINE MUST SUPPORT THE ENTIRE EDUCATION CONTINUUM, FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH ADULTHOOD.

A strong education system begins with robust investments in early childhood education (ages 0-5) and continues through postsecondary, including affordable and accessible higher education, adult education, and workforce training.

Early Education

Early education includes center- and family-based child care and Head Start. Maine is also expanding public pre-K options.



69% of children under 6 have **all caregivers in the workforce**



57% of 4-year olds are **enrolled in public pre-K**



22% of Maine children **live in a child care desert**

Higher Education

Education after high school is linked with greater economic stability over the course of a lifetime.



57% of Maine high school students **enroll in college** right after HS



58% of those who enroll **graduate from college** within 6 years



57% of Maine adults aged 25-64 **hold a degree or credential of value**

Adult Education

Maine Adult Education includes high school completion, English language acquisition, workforce training, and enrichment.

60+ **Adult Education programs** statewide, many co-located in high schools

1,113 **high school diplomas** awarded through Adult Education in 2024-25

3,073 **credentials of value** earned in high-demand career fields in 2024-25

Visit [EducationIndicators.me](https://educationindicators.me) for more Maine education data.