

A Diverse Maine that Few Know

A summary of research and a presentation by Charles S. Colgan of the Muskie School, USM

Maine may be a predominantly white state, but many non-white categories have doubled since the last census:

White - 95.2%

Multiracial - 1.6%

Asian - 1.0% - 108% increase

African-American - 1.2% - 132% increase

American Indian - .7%

Other - .3% - 144% increase (includes 12 other classifications)

As our diversity continues to increase, our overall population has decreased slightly, but the number of international residents has rapidly increased. Asia is our largest source of foreign born residents. Almost every county in Maine has seen over a 50% increase in their populations of color from 2000 to 2010.

7% of Maine households speak a language other than English at home.

We often think of our older population living in the rural areas of the state on the rim, however from the 2000 census to the 2010 census, a significant percentage of older mainers have shifted to urban centers in the state.

205,000 (15.6%) of Mainers have disabilities and 109,000 are between the ages of 18 and 64.

National average per capita income: \$28,274

Average per capita income in Maine: \$24,230

Average per capita income in rural Maine: \$20,254

Average per capita income in urban Maine: \$ 27,176

Additional information from the Maine People's Resource Center's Racial Justice Guide

below and page two; full report available at:

http://mprc.me/documents/ME_racial_justice_policy_guide.pdf

- Maine -like the rest of the country - has enormous disparities in educational outcomes. Because of inequities in our schools, black fourth graders in Maine gave below-basic math skills at nearly three times the rate of while children, and more than half of black fourth graders (58%) in Maine can't read at a basic level.
- Native Americans and Latinos in Maine die on average fourteen years earlier than Mainers as a whole.
- The median annual income for every racial group in Maine - including Asians - is at least \$10,000 lower than the income for white Mainers. Additionally, multiracial Mainers had the lowest median income reported - just \$11,902.

PAGE TWO will be the map on page 8 of this guide:

http://mprc.me/documents/ME_racial_justice_policy_guide.pdf