

# Maine



Maine has a medium-sized rural high school student population; however these students make up the strong majority of the state's total high school population.

The strong majority of ME's rural high schools students is white (90.8%), and no minority group represents more than 2% of the student population.

ME's rural median family income (\$48,000) is below the overall state median income (\$56,300). Furthermore, rural ME falls in the second quintile for economic mobility, meaning the current generation is unlikely to out earn their parents.

High school graduation rates as well as AP and SAT/ACT participation rates are a useful college preparedness gauge. The rural student population has a strong graduation rate that is slightly above the state rate and far above the national rate.

Rural students participate in AP exams and the ACT/SAT at rates on par with their peers across the state.

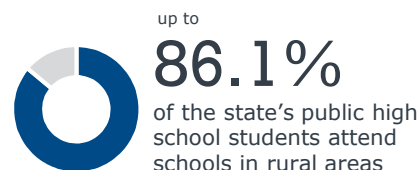
The unemployment rate in rural ME is lower than the national rate and only slightly higher than the state rate, showing a strong job market statewide.

Looking at the top industries in rural parts of the state, only the *education, training, and library* occupations category necessarily requires a college degree, at least for the majority of reported roles held. Select roles in other categories (i.e., accounting) may also require a degree.

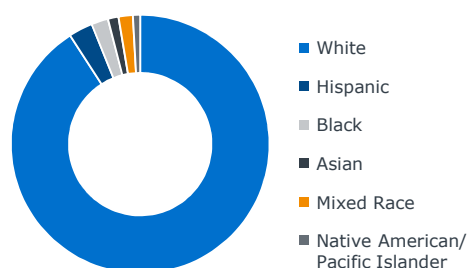
## Size of the Rural Market

### 44,000+

rural students in grades 9-12<sup>1</sup> throughout the state



## Statewide Rural Diversity Measures



### \$48,000

median family income in rural parts of the state

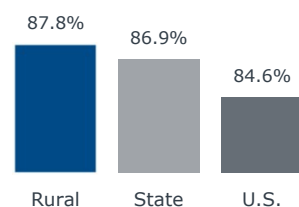
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economic mobility ranking (second quintile) ●●●●●

## Academic Preparedness

### High School Graduation Rates

Rural, state, and national averages



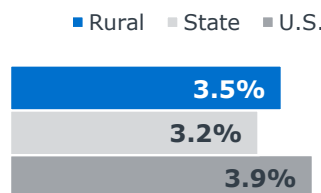
### College Readiness Indicators

	Rural	State
Share of junior and senior students who take ACT/SAT per year	51.2%	52.8%
Share of rural HS students taking 1+ AP exams per year	12.1%	12.4%

## Employment and Industry Context

### Unemployment Rates<sup>†</sup>

Unemployment in rural Maine is below the national unemployment rate.



<sup>†</sup> Data as of December 2018

### Main Industries in Rural ME

The main industries in the nonmetro areas of the state, excluding retail and food service occupations, are:

- **Office and administrative**  
*Secretaries; office assistants; bookkeeping and accounting; store clerks; order fillers*
- **Production occupations**  
*Assemblers and fabricators; meat, fish and poultry processors; general production*
- **Education, training, and library**  
*Elementary education; teacher assistants; secondary education; preschool education*

1) 2015-16 NCES private school data shows about 6,500 additional rural students in private schools in the state.

Source: See "Data and Methodology" for a full explanation of resources accessed and analyses conducted.