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Quote

"Short-sighted cuts, backwards wage policies, and a refusal to accept federal nutrition and health care assistance are stifling women's economic prospects and depriving Maine's economy of millions of dollars in higher potential earnings. That's bad for all of us. Maine is not truly 'the way life should be' as long as our economy leaves Maine women behind."

*Jody Harris, MECEP associate director and Christy Daggett, MECEP policy analyst, in a **Bangor Daily News** op ed, **October 22, 2014.***

Facts & Figures in Graphs

As the adage goes, a picture is worth 1,000 words. Each month MECEP publishes many "pictures" in the form of charts and graphs to illustrate data. Here are some examples from the past month that help to demonstrate their effectiveness.

[Click on the image to see](#)

Dear MECEP Friend,

It's down to the wire as Mainers go to the polls next week to choose a governor, both houses of the state legislature, a U.S. Senator, and both of Maine's members of the U.S. House of Representatives. They will also vote on six proposed bond issues vitally important to the state's economy. And when it comes to investments vital to Maine's economy, MECEP is an outspoken advocate for bonds to fund infrastructure improvements, research and develop, capital for small businesses, and other initiatives that create jobs and enhance the economic security and prosperity of Maine families.



Bonds on the Ballot

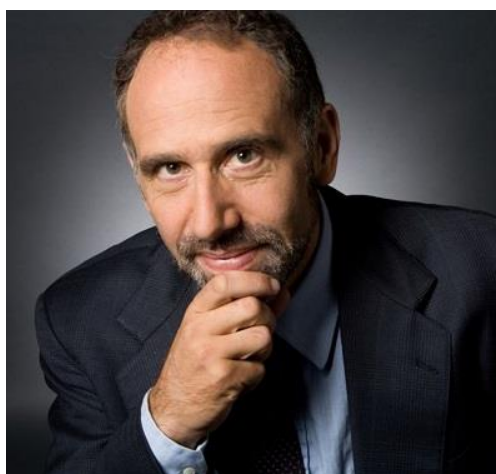
On November 4th, Maine voters will consider six bond proposals totaling \$50 million. MECEP testified in support of this bipartisan package. This fall we have been strong advocates urging approval of these proposed bonds. In an [October 26 op ed in the \(Lewiston\) Sun Journal](#),



MECEP associate director Jody Harris emphasized that these investments "will act as a catalyst for other spending. The resulting investment will ripple through our economy, create new business start-ups, and employ hard-working Mainers in good-paying jobs."

To read the full op ed, [click here](#).

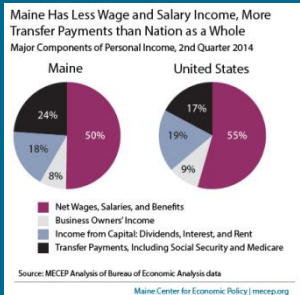
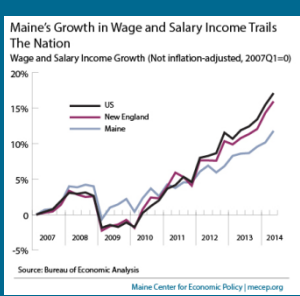
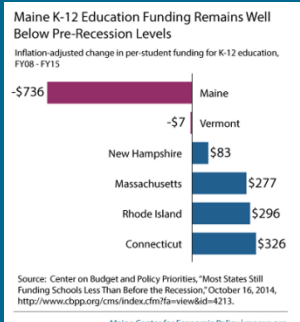
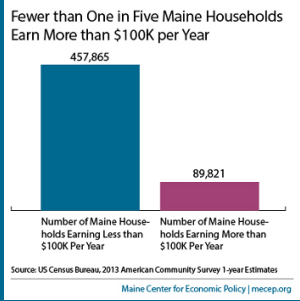
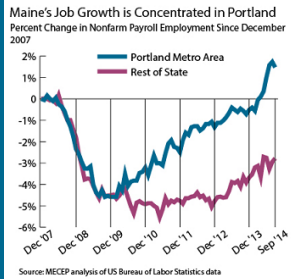
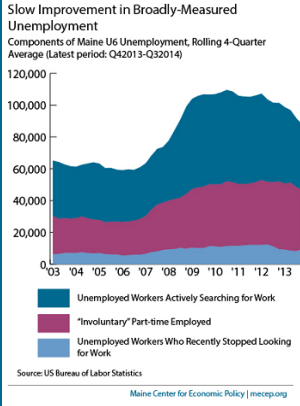
Dean Baker to Deliver Lee Lecture, December 1 at Portland Public Library



Dean Baker

Economist, writer, commentator, and blogger [Dean Baker](#) will deliver the next Shepard Lee lecture on Monday, December 1 at [Portland Public Library's Rines Auditorium](#). Baker is co-director of the [Center for Economic and Policy Research](#) and frequently cited by major media outlets including **The New York Times**, **Washington Post**, CNN, CNBC, and National Public Radio. He writes a weekly column for [The Guardian Unlimited](#) and [Huffington Post](#). He is the author of several books including most recently, [Getting Back to Full Employment: A Better Bargain for Working People](#), coauthored with Jared Bernstein, which Robert Reich has called "a gem of a book." Baker's

it full size.



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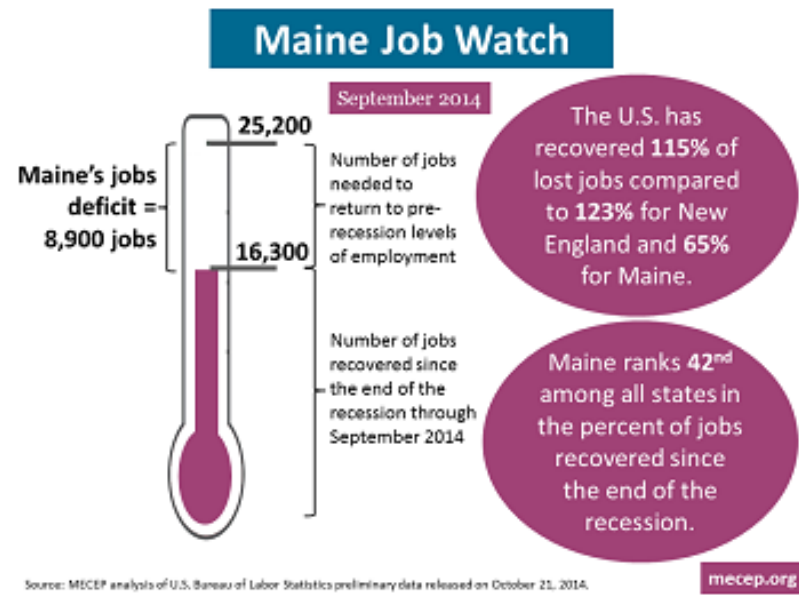
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popular blog, [Beat the Press](#), is both informative and thought-provoking.

The event is free and open to the public. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by questions from the audience and a reception at the conclusion of the program.

Updates on Maine's Economy and Lost Medicaid Expansion Funding

MECEP continues to track Maine's slow recovery from the Great Recession. The **Maine Job Watch** graphic reveals that Maine continues to lag behind New England and the nation in jobs recovery. The **Maine Medicaid Counter** graphic shows that Maine has already lost more than \$280 million in federal Affordable Care Act funds to provide health coverage to low-income Mainers.



MAINE MEDICAID COUNTER

TAKE BACK OUR TAX DOLLARS

\$280,086,180.01

Since January 1, 2014, Maine has rejected over \$900,000 per day that would provide coverage to 70,000 uninsured people.

We can make a better choice.

The total amount Maine has lost and can never recover as of October 30, 2014

mecepp.org

MECEP Staff Blogposts Tell the Story beyond the Numbers



MECEP's staff blog on a wide array of topics. This month they analyzed the Bureau of Labor Statistics quarterly "U6" data which delves beyond the monthly unemployment numbers to count those unemployed who have recently stopped looking for work and those who are employed part-time but looking for full-time jobs. MECEP bloggers also analyzed new data showing Maine as one of the states that has most sharply cut education funding since the recession.

[Portland continues to drive job growth](#) (October 29, 2014)

[Broadly measured unemployment continues slow road to](#)

[recovery](#) (October 28, 2014)

[Education funding falters in Maine, has serious repercussions](#) (October 16, 2014)

[Maine's lack of population and job growth tamps down growth in wages and salaries](#) (September 30, 2014)

MECEP in the News

In October, MECEP staff produced op eds for publication in the [Bangor Daily News](#) (economic opportunity for Maine women), (Lewiston) [Sun Journal](#) (bonds as investments in Maine's economy), and [Portland Press Herald](#) (black and African-



American poverty in Maine). The media continued to seek MECEP's analysis on issues ranging from state budget cuts to education to demographics.

[State's economic disparity discriminates most against minorities](#) (**Portland Press Herald**, October 30, 2014)

[Bonds are an investment in Maine's future](#) (Lewiston **Sun Journal**, October 26, 2014)

[LePage's "not that rich" quip not that close to most Mainers' reality](#) (**Portland Press Herald**, October 22, 2014)

[Maine's economic policies are leaving women behind, especially in rural Maine](#) (**Bangor Daily News**, October 21, 2014)

[Interview about recent U.S. Census Bureau data](#) (WZON-AM's The Morning Pulse) October 20, 2014)

[Report: Maine education budget cuts among highest in the nation](#) (Lewiston **Sun Journal**, October 16, 2014)

[Keep it local](#) (**The Dartmouth**, October 14, 2014)

Be sure to keep up with MECEP on social media: "like" us on [Facebook, \(click here\)](#) and "follow" us on [Twitter, \(click here\)](#). And read the latest posts to [MECEP's blog \(click here\)](#) for more detailed information on our ongoing research and analysis of issues in the news.

Please vote on November 4th!



Sincerely,

Mark Sullivan
Maine Center for Economic Policy