

State of the Districts 2020:

House District 79

Albion, Benton (part) and China, plus Unity Township

| Population | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 8,500 | Total population | 1,333,000 |
| 2% | Population who identify as people of color. | 7% |

| Economic Growth & Employment | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 3% | Annual growth in taxable retail sales between 2014 and 2019. This is one indicator of economic growth. | 4.6% |
| 83% | Adults age 25 to 54 who are working or looking for work. In the past, this rate has been as high as 90% statewide. | 83% |

| Poverty & the Safety Net | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 7% | Children who live in poverty. Children in poverty have worse health and educational outcomes. | 16% |
| 8% | People who live in poverty. Mainers in poverty don't have the resources to meet their most basic needs. | 13% |
| 623 | Households that claim the Earned Income Tax Credit. The EITC reduces poverty by boosting income for working families. | 99,871 (total) |
| 36% | Households that receive Social Security. The average monthly payment in this district is \$1543 per household. | 36% |
| 2% | Households that receive some cash assistance during the year. This includes TANF and General Assistance. The average TANF payment in Maine was \$541 per household per month in 2019. | 3.5% |

| Food Security | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 11% | Households that are food-insecure, meaning they cannot afford enough nutritious food on a regular basis. | 13% |
| 14% | Households that receive food assistance (SNAP). The average monthly payment in Maine is \$109 per person. | 15% |

| Education | | |
|---------------|--|-----------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 4% | Working-age adults (age 25 to 64) who did not complete high school. Nearly three out of four jobs require a high school diploma. | 6.0% |
| 23% | Working-age adults who have a bachelor's degree. The national average is just over 32%. | 32% |

| Health Care | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| Your District | | Statewide |
| 12% | Nonelderly adults (age 19 to 64) who don't have health insurance. | 12% |
| 1% | Children who don't have health insurance. Children need access to health care to thrive in school and beyond. | 5.7% |
| 38% of people are enrolled one of the major public health care programs, including: | | |
| 22% | People enrolled in Medicare. | 22% |
| 19% | People enrolled in Medicaid (MaineCare). | 19% |
| 4% | People enrolled in coverage through the Veterans' Administration. | 3.5% |

Notes

Except as noted below, data are from the United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey. The figures represent five-year estimates averaging the period from 2014 through 2018.

Taxable retail sales estimates are based on data from Maine Revenue Services. Change in sales compares total taxable sales in a one-year period from October 2018 through September 2019 with the equivalent 12-month period ending September 2014. Sales data are collected by "economic summary areas," which do not align exactly with legislative districts. For some districts, data were combined from multiple ESAs.

EITC data are from the United States Internal Revenue Service, as compiled by the Brookings Institution. Counts are for tax year 2014 (the most recent available). See [brookings.edu/interactives/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc-interactive-and-resources/](https://www.brookings.edu/interactives/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc-interactive-and-resources/).

Rates of food insecurity are for 2017. They were estimated using American Community Survey data on district demographics and economic condition, following a methodology used by *Feeding America*. See [feedingamerica.org/research/map-the-meal-gap/how-we-got-the-map-data](https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/map-the-meal-gap/how-we-got-the-map-data).

For more information and to compare legislative districts, visit mecep.org/districtdata.