

MDF is a non-partisan, statewide public-private organization that works to drive sustainable economic growth and improve the lives of all Mainers. We do this through trusted research, leadership development and creative partnerships that connect businesses, policymakers, educators, community leaders and other non-profits.



Trusted Research

Our multi-sector, non-partisan methods of collecting data, testing its validity with our cross-sector partners, and sharing it widely across our network is why we are one of the most trusted sources of economic data in Maine.

MDF manages or is a lead partner in key research initiatives and reports used by policymakers, businesses, educators and individuals:

- Maine Economic Growth Council
- Measures of Growth
- Making Maine Work



Leadership Development

Our leadership development programs provide training and experiential learning opportunities to ensure decision makers of every type and from every sector have access to the training and resources they need to be effective catalysts and conveners in their businesses and communities.

MDF is proud to offer programs for business, non-profit, policymaking and emerging leaders:

- Leadership Maine
- Institute for Civic Leadership
- Policy Leaders Academy
- Realize Maine Network



Creative Partnerships

MDF is here to connect you with the people, research, and resources you need to solve problems and implement innovative approaches that make visions of a more vibrant community the reality.

MDF is honored to manage statewide initiatives that help individuals and communities achieve their highest potential:

- Maine Downtown Center
- Maine Spark
- Forest Opportunity Roadmap

There's a place at the MDF Table for You

MDF is also a member organization representing individuals, businesses and organizations from all sectors and regions of the state. Members inform our research, partner in our work, and hold us accountable to high standards of impact. With membership rates starting at \$50, a seat at the table is accessible and brings benefits that include: early access to our research, discounts for leadership programs, and opportunities to promote your business to our broad network.

For more information about our programs and how to become a member, visit mdf.org

MEASURES OF GROWTH

Performance Measures and Benchmarks to Achieve
a Vibrant and Sustainable Economy for Maine

2020



26TH
REPORT OF
THE MEGC

 **MEGC**
Maine Economic
Growth Council

Administered by
mdf

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PROSPERITY

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Maine's average annual wage was \$47,234, well below the U.S. and New England averages of about \$59,000, but just 4% below the average for a group of comparable states.


2. Poverty pg 9

Maine's poverty rate rose from 11.3% in 2017 to 11.6% in 2018. Nationwide, poverty declined from 13.4% to 13.1%, and New England's poverty rate decreased slightly from 10.4% to 10.2%.

3. Gender Income Equity pg 10

In recent years, women's income as a percentage of men's in Maine has gradually improved, from 79% in 2014 and 2015 to 84% in 2018.

4. Racial/Ethnic Income Equity pg 11


 From 2014 to 2018, the average per-capita income in Maine was \$31,253. White, non-Hispanic Mainers averaged \$32,050 in per-capita income, 60% higher than the \$19,920 average among Maine residents of all other races and ethnicities.

PEOPLE

5. Total Employment pg 13


Maine total employment continued to grow in 2019, adding another 5,100 jobs for a total of 635,500 jobs.

6. Workforce pg 14

 Maine had a workforce of 690,000 people in 2019. From 2018 to 2019, the workforce shrank by 2,900 people.

PRODUCTIVITY

7. Value-Added per Worker pg 15

 Worker productivity in Maine has steadily increased, but it is among the lowest of the 50 states. Our value added per worker grew from \$97,201 in 2017 to \$100,463 in 2018, but as a percentage of U.S. value-added per worker, Maine's dropped from 24% lower in 2016 and 2017 to 25% lower in 2018.


8. Gross Domestic Product pg 16

Adjusted for inflation, Maine's GDP grew 1.9% from 2018 to 2019. This trailed the national and New England average of 2.3%.

ECONOMY

INNOVATION

9. Research & Development Expenditures pg 18

 In 2017, Maine's total spending on R&D was \$520 million, up from \$483 million in 2016. R&D spending in Maine represents 0.8% of total GDP, which ranks 46th of the 50 states and is one-half of the estimated 1.6% average among EPSCoR states.

10. International Exports pg 19



Maine saw a 4% drop in exports from 2018 to 2019; U.S. exports fell 1.4%. Maine's international trade index peaked in 2011 and has been relatively flat since 2013.

11. Entrepreneurship pg 20

In 2018, Maine dropped to a 50-state ranking of 43rd, from 6th place in 2017 and 37th in 2015 and 2016. This metric is often volatile due to the small but variable numbers of new business owners each year.

TALENT


12. Prekindergarten Education pg 21

  In 2019-20, 77% of Maine school districts offered free public pre-K programs. 46% of Maine four-year-olds were enrolled in public pre-K in 2018-19, well above the U.S. average of 34% and the New England average of 30%.

13. Fourth-Grade Reading pg 22

In 2019, 36% of Maine 4th-graders were proficient in reading by NAEP standards, the same proportion as in 2015 and 2017. Maine ranked just above the national average of 35% and trailed the New England average by four points.

14. Eighth-Grade Math pg 23


 34% of Maine 8th-graders tested proficient on NAEP in 2019, down from 40% in 2013 and at the same level as in 2007. The national average was 33% and the New England average was 38% in 2019.

15. Postsecondary Degree Attainment and Occupational Credentials pg 24

Maine's postsecondary degree attainment improved from 34% in 2008 to 41% in 2018, equal to the national average, but well below the New England average of 49%.

BUSINESS CLIMATE

16. Cost of Doing Business pg 25

 Maine's cost of doing business index value was 112 in 2007, rose to a high of 114 in 2008-2009, and has been stable at 110 since 2012. In 2019, Maine's cost of doing business ranked 7th highest in the U.S., ranking worse than New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, and better than Massachusetts and Vermont.



PDF available for download at [mdf.org](https://www.mdf.org)

17. Cost of Health Care **pg 26**

In 2018, health care spending in Maine stood at 17.4% of all personal expenditures, above the 2008 rate of 16.6%, but at a stable level since 2015. Mainers devote a higher proportion of expenditures to health care than the national and New England averages.

18. Cost of Energy **pg 27**

The industrial price of electricity in Maine increased slightly from 9.32 to 9.37 cents per kilowatt hour from 2018 to 2019, while the average New England price declined from 13.19 to 12.92 cents and the U.S. average fell from 6.92 to 6.83 cents.

19. State and Local Tax Burden **pg 28**

State and local tax burden in Maine has remained around 12% of personal income since 2009. The 2017 New England average was 10.5%. From 2016 to 2017, Maine's state and local tax burden moved closer to the New England average.

COMMUNITY

INFRASTRUCTURE

20. Broadband Connectivity **pg 30**

While 95% of Mainers have access to basic broadband—slightly above the national rate of 94%—only 55% have broadband subscriptions, compared with 65% nationally. The proportion of Mainers with basic broadband subscriptions rose from 30% in 2016 to 55% in 2018.

21. Transportation Infrastructure **pg 31**

In 2019, 816 miles or 58% of Priority 1 highways were graded A, B or C, and 582 miles (42%) received grades of D or F. This shows further, steady decline since 2012 in the proportion of Maine highways receiving top grades.

22. Housing Affordability **pg 32**

Housing is more affordable in Maine than in the United States or the Northeast region. But after improving from 2007 to 2015, housing affordability in Maine has declined slightly each year since.

HEALTH & SAFETY

23. Safety **pg 33**

Maine's crime rate in 2018, 14.7 per 1,000 residents, was 43% below the national rate of 25.8 and among the lowest of the 50 states. Maine's violent crimes rates in particular are significantly lower than the nation, and property crime rates have also been falling.

24. Wellness and Prevention **pg 34**

Two-thirds (66%) of Maine adults were overweight or obese in 2018. This is up one percentage point from 2017, and equal to the U.S. average.

25. Health Insurance Coverage **pg 35**

The proportion of Maine residents with health insurance coverage has remained at 92% from 2016 through 2018. Maine's health insurance coverage rate rose slightly from 2017 to 2018 while the national rate of 91% dropped slightly.

26. Food Security **pg 36**

13.6% of Maine households experienced food insecurity in 2016-2018, down from 14.4% in 2015-2017, but well above the U.S. average of 11.7% and the New England average of 10.6%.

ENVIRONMENT

27. Air Quality **pg 38**

After declining in the 1980s and 1990s, air quality in Maine has improved substantially, and is better than other Northeastern states. The number of moderate (23) and low (1) air quality days in 2019 were the lowest on record.

28. Water Quality **pg 39**

Since 2006, Maine's water quality has remained steady, with 95% of rivers and streams, and 91% of lakes, achieving Category 1 or 2 ("good") in 2016.

29. Sustainable Forest Lands **pg 40**

Since 2010, Maine has maintained net forest growth-to-removal ratios slightly in favor of growth over harvest. The growth to harvest ratio fell slightly from 1.38 in 2018 to 1.27 in 2019.

Exceptional Performance
Very high national standing and/or established trend toward significant improvement.

Needs Attention
Very low national standing and/or established trend toward significant decline. The indicator may show improvement but is still viewed as needing attention.

Movement toward the benchmark since the last available data.

No significant movement relative to the benchmark since the last available data.

Movement away from the benchmark since the last available data.

What is MaineSpark's goal?

60% of the Maine population with a credential of value by 2025.

At least 40% of the newly credentialed Mainers will be students ages 25 and older.

What is MaineSpark's Adult Promise?

Adult Promise is one of four areas of focus—or “tracks”—of the MaineSpark initiative.

The Adult Promise track is a network of MaineSpark coalition member agencies whose focus is on supporting adult learners looking to earn post-secondary credentials, change careers, or learn a new trade or skill.

What is the MaineSpark Adult Promise vision?

Adult Promise member agencies are **working on**



connecting Maine's adult learners to affordable degree and credential programs



comprehensive and coordinated systems that address the diverse needs of adult learners



an easy-to-access **online resource center** for adult learners and the professionals who serve them to **easily navigate pathways toward their futures**



training service providers to make **effective and coordinated internal and external referrals** to adult learner clients



a statewide **promotional campaign** that emphasizes the value of degrees and credentials, in helping adults achieve their goals

What are “credentials of value” and why is MaineSpark focusing on them?

MaineSpark defines a credential of value as a recognized degree, diploma, certificate or credential that leads to further education and high quality employment.

mainespark^{MZ}

ADULT PROMISE

Who's working on MaineSpark's Adult Promise?

A diverse group of public and private higher education institutions, businesses, philanthropic groups, state departments, and non-profit organizations.
 (For the most up-to-date list, visit mainespark.me).

The initial group researched and conceived of the **60% by 2025** attainment goal, a formal resolution was developed and signed in 2016, and an Attainment Challenge Grant from Lumina Foundation was awarded in April 2017.



Additional Support



How can YOU help Maine reach the goal of 60% by 2025?



keep doing the good work you're already doing, and tell us about it



strengthen collaborations and partnerships with other MaineSpark agencies and in your local community



go to mainespark.me to get involved and stay in touch



send stories of how your organization is helping Maine get to 60% by 2025 to adultpromise@mainespark.me

Adult Promise steering committee



What is the MaineSpark Navigator network?

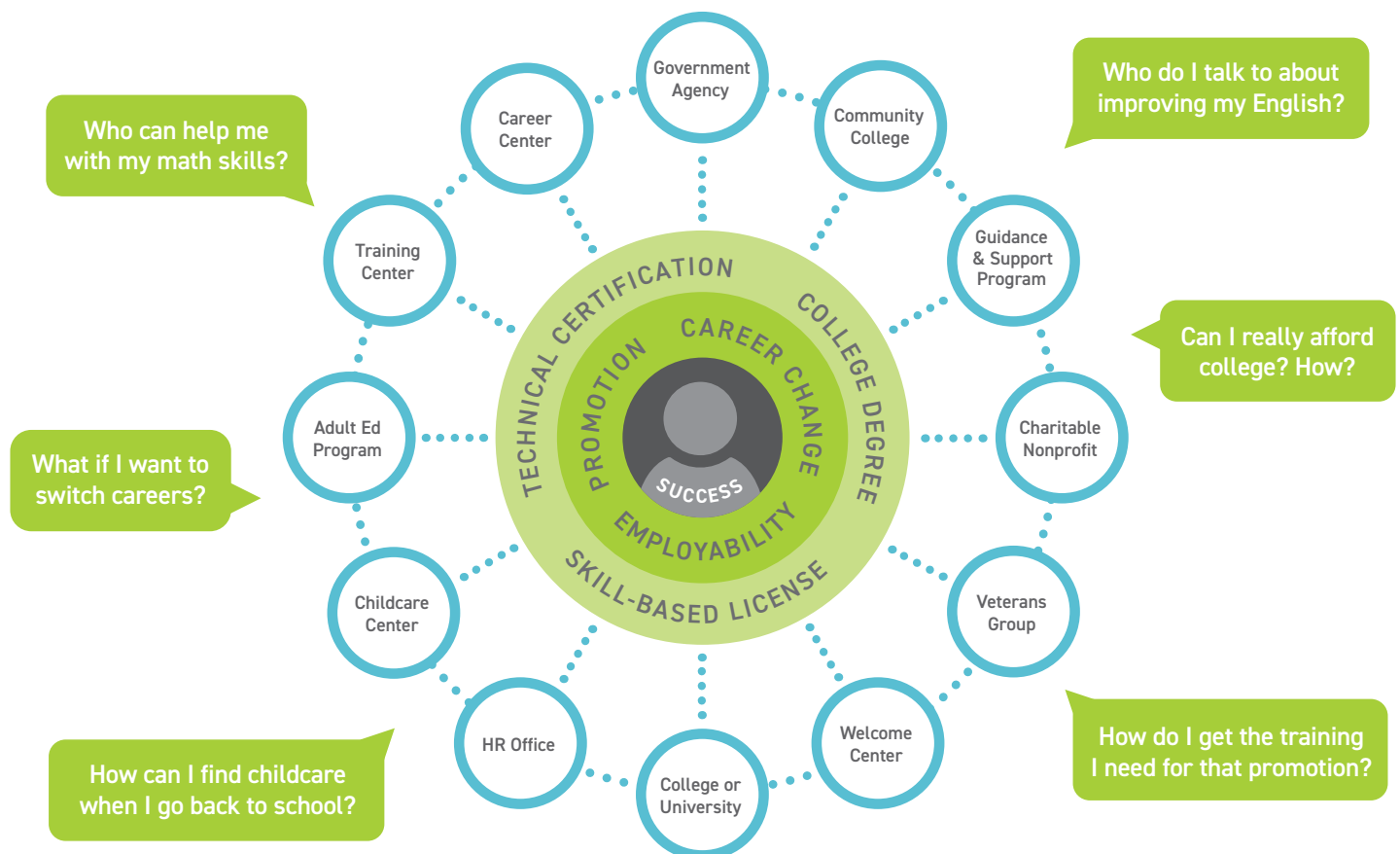
The **MaineSpark Navigator** network is a dedicated and trained group of education and career specialists who help **Mainers connect to their futures**. Through one-on-one conversations, they explain the value of education and the role of MaineSpark in helping Mainers obtain the credentials they need to qualify for good jobs and pursue their life goals. Navigators understand financial, logistic and other challenges, and are able to point Mainers to the right resources for their individual situations.

The Navigators in the network are here to work directly with the public, helping Mainers in every way they can. In return, MaineSpark keeps the Navigators up-to date on information and resources through trainings, resources and events.

Issues on which Navigators can advise

applications / enrollment / admissions / financial aid / scholarships / career planning
tutoring / apprenticeships / housing / healthcare / transportation / childcare

With Navigators, Mainers can start anywhere and be connected to answers!



Why is the Navigator network necessary?

MaineSpark's goal is for 60% of Mainers to hold credentials of value by 2025 so that they can fill the excellent jobs available in the state. This ambitious milestone—which requires an increase of over 63,000 skilled adults in the next six years—is vital to the economic success of our state. To reach it, many Mainers will need to overcome significant barriers in order to enroll in educational or training programs.

Similar efforts in other states have shown that people are most likely to meet their educational and/or skill training goals when they receive **individualized, one-on-one, continuous guidance**. The MaineSpark Navigator network provides this vital support.

Who are the Navigators currently in the network?

The MaineSpark Navigator network is made up of 375 professionals from across the sectors supporting adults in Maine, all of whom are experienced in offering professional advising and guidance. Each Navigator brings expertise to the table, and through this program, MaineSpark is establishing a community of practice that optimizes skill- and information-sharing.

Where are we in the process?

With the support of Lumina Foundation, Avangrid, and Maine Community Foundation, MaineSpark's Adult Promise track began developing the Navigator network in 2018. By pulling in knowledgeable professionals already serving in a diverse array of programs and fields to serve as Navigators, MaineSpark has helped streamline a sometimes complex process. Through the MaineSpark Navigator network, we are able to share data and work collaboratively with a wide range of institutions and service organizations, thereby providing Mainers with a more seamless guidance process.

Later this year, MaineSpark's Adult Promise track will launch an online hub which can be used by Navigators and the public to more quickly and easily access the most relevant resources for individuals on the path to career success.

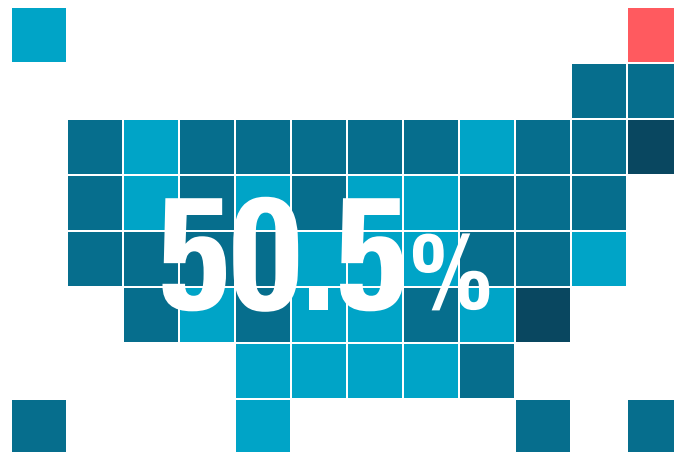
What still needs to be done?

In order to achieve the 60% by 2025 goal, Mainers must be able to strategically negotiate community, education, and employment resources that support their college and career access. Navigators are central to this effort. MaineSpark hopes to increase the number of Navigators to 500, offering scholarships for Navigators to attend trainings.

Other similar successful initiatives are state-led. Through a shared public/private model, the number of Navigators could continue to grow, as will the amount of time and energy the Navigators are able to focus on each aspiring adult who connects with them.

A STRONGER NATION

Learning beyond high school builds American talent



Maine's Report 2019



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Maine's progress toward the goal

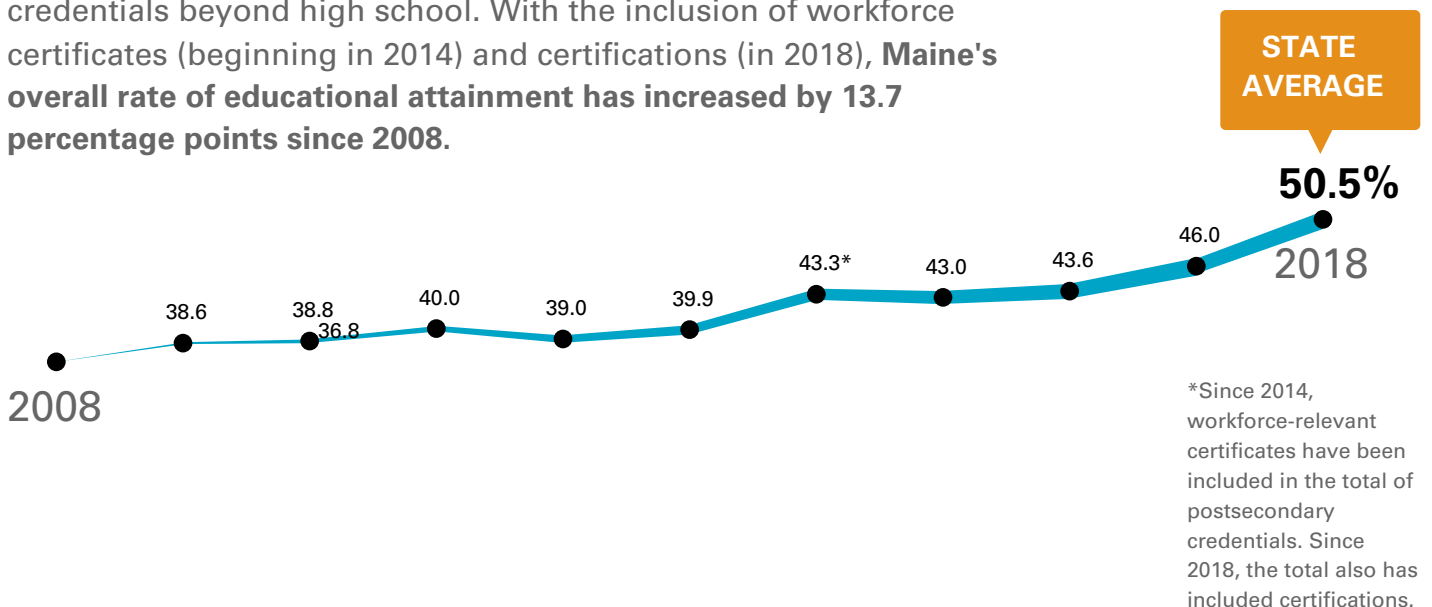
By 2025, 60 percent of Americans will need some type of high-quality credential beyond high school. To count toward this important goal, any credential must have clear and transparent learning outcomes that lead to further education and employment. **Maine's attainment rate is 50 percent, and the state is working toward its attainment goal of 60 percent by 2025.**

Maine is making progress in increasing educational attainment, but still lags when compared to the national average.



Maine's progress

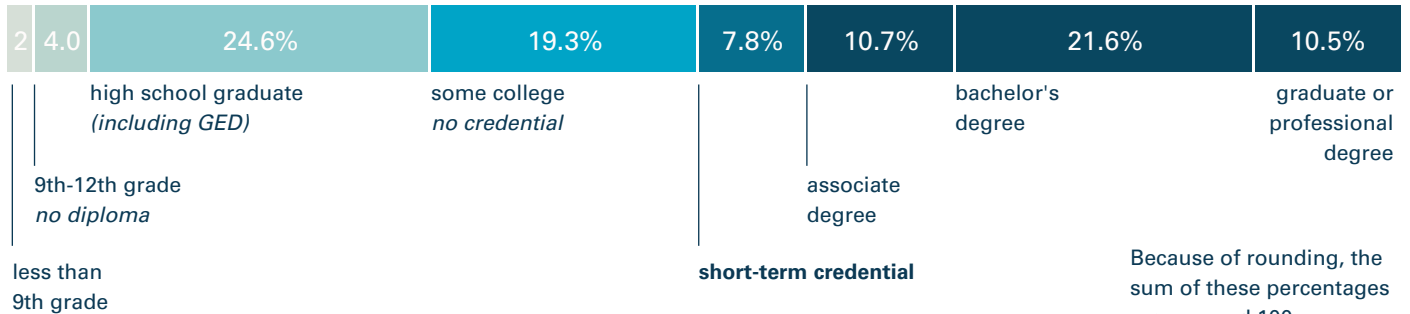
To reach state goals, the state will not only have to maintain current rates of attainment but also significantly increase the number of people who enroll in programs and earn all types of credentials beyond high school. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014) and certifications (in 2018), **Maine's overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 13.7 percentage points since 2008.**



Highest Education Level Across Maine

MAINE AGES 25-64

50.5% attainment



Because of rounding, the sum of these percentages may exceed 100.

Short-term credentials include certifications (6.1%) and certificates (1.7%).

Maine's racial and ethnic disparities

There are **significant gaps** in educational attainment that must be closed – specifically, **gaps linked to race and ethnicity. These gaps persist in every state.** Because educational attainment beyond high school has become the key determinant of economic opportunity and social mobility, **closing these gaps is crucial.**

Comparing Maine Counties

Exploring educational attainment at the local level can be especially helpful to local leaders as they work on talent development. For example, by pinpointing counties or regions where attainment lags, resources can be targeted where they're needed most. Conversely, in areas of high attainment, other regions may find practices or processes they can emulate.

Compare degree attainment rates across Maine's 16 counties. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of people ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*

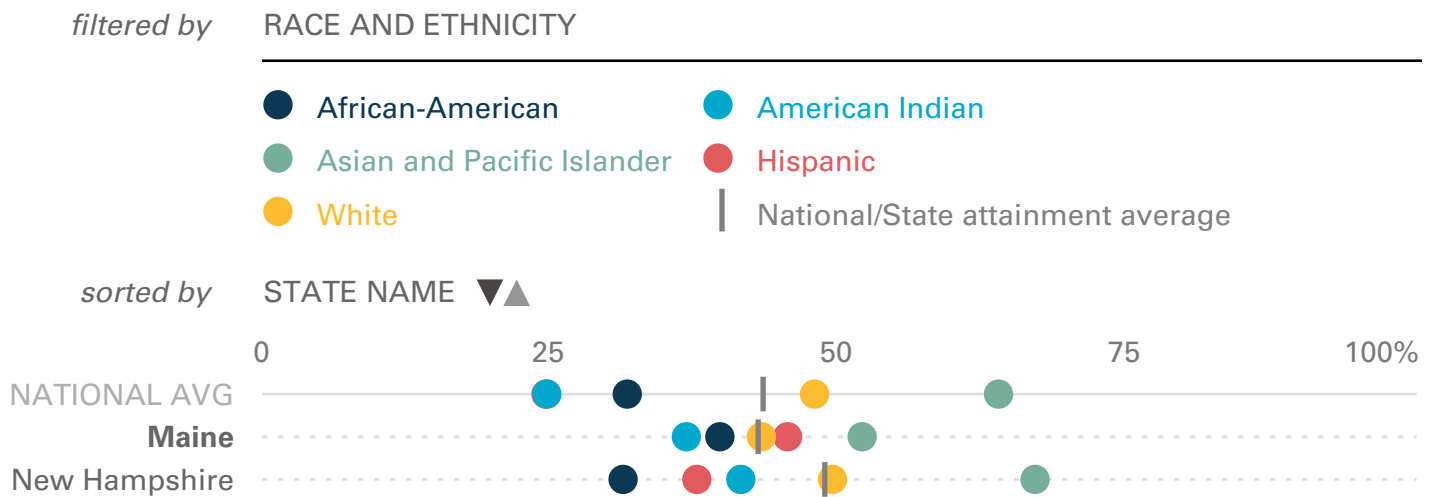
sorted by NAME ▼▲

Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank	Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank
36.5%	Androscoggin	107,651	5	29.4%	Oxford	57,439	7
33.7%	Aroostook	67,653	6	40.6%	Penobscot	151,957	3
58.2%	Cumberland	292,500	1	31.7%	Piscataquis	16,773	16
37.8%	Franklin	29,988	15	44.2%	Sagadahoc	35,392	12
40.2%	Hancock	54,497	8	29.9%	Somerset	50,626	9
38.9%	Kennebec	121,821	4	37.7%	Waldo	39,832	10
37.9%	Knox	39,790	11	30.6%	Washington	31,593	14
36.0%	Lincoln	34,204	13	43.5%	York	204,191	2

Results by race and ethnicity in Maine

A growing proportion of today's learners are African-American, Hispanic, and American Indian; and data show persistent and troubling gaps between their attainment levels and those of their white peers. Addressing these gaps – and expanding post-high-school learning opportunities for all – is essential to reducing the inequality that influences much of American life.

Explore **Maine's attainment rates across five racial and ethnic groups**, and see how it performs relative to other states. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of residents, ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*



Data sources

Data sources for *A Stronger Nation* are listed below, along with links and additional information.

Attainment and enrollment rates

U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS): One-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS). County-level and metro-regional data are from ACS five-year estimates (2013-2017). College enrollment percentages reflect the enrollment of non-degree-holding students, ages 18-57, at public and private two- and four-year institutions.

- U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>

Persistence and completion rates

Student retention rates (persistence) and degree-completion rates were collected by the National Student Clearinghouse. Graduate degrees awarded were analyzed by the National Center for Education Statistics and IPEDS.

- National Student Clearinghouse, 2016: <http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/>
- National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/>
- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completion Survey 2014-2015: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData>

Awareness

Data that track public opinion about the importance of earning credentials come from a Gallup-Lumina Foundation survey conducted in 2016.

Population

U.S. Census Bureau Population Division: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2017.

- U.S. Census Bureau Annual Population Estimates: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2017_PEPANNRES&prodType=table

Inclusion of certificates

Attainment rates for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 include the estimated percentage of working-age Americans who have earned high-value postsecondary certificates – not just associate degrees and above, as *A Stronger Nation* reported in previous years. This estimated percentage was derived by polling a nationally representative sample of Americans ages 25-64. The surveys were conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, an independent research institution. See the [methodology for certificate estimates](#).

At the state level, the estimated percentage of state residents who have earned high-value certificates was derived by labor market experts at Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce.

- The [National Education and Attainment Survey](#) (NEAS) from NORC at the University of Chicago
- [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#)
- Georgetown University's [Center on Education and the Workforce](#)

Defining metro areas

Metro-area data in *A Stronger Nation* are those that apply to the nation's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The term MSA refers to "a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core." MSAs comprise one or more entire counties, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units. The federal Office of Management and Budget defines MSAs by applying published standards to Census Bureau data.

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation's need for talent through a broad range of credentials. Our goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.



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FOUNDATION

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February 2021



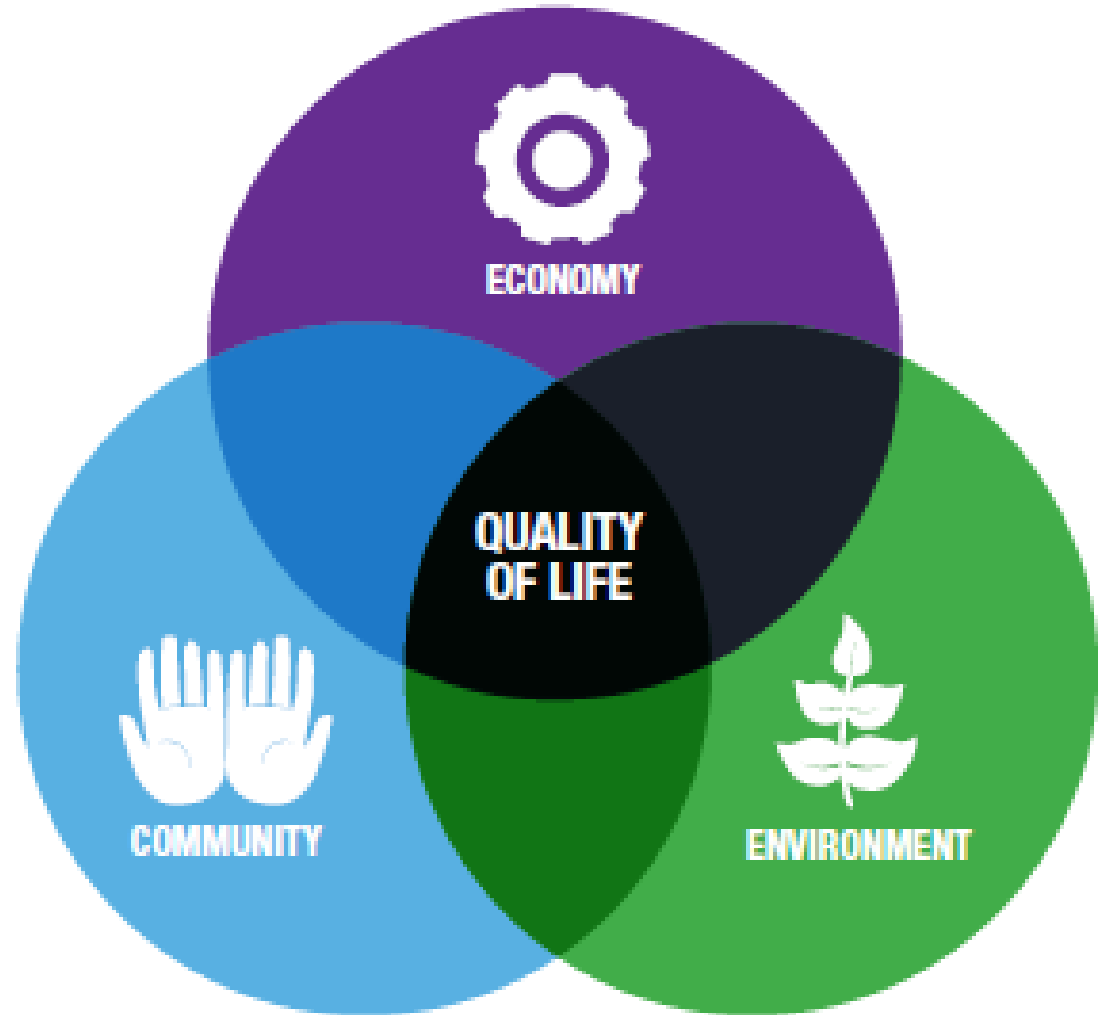
CONNECTING PEOPLE
& STRATEGIES TO DRIVE
MAINE'S ECONOMY

Briefing to ECA Committee

February 5, 2021

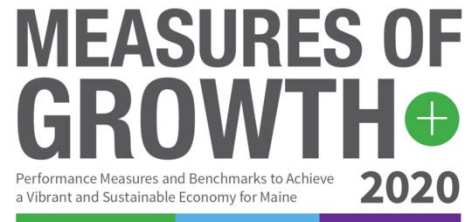
VISION

A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE
FOR ALL MAINE PEOPLE



mdf

Economic Policy & Research



Critical Investments for the Maine Economy

Leadership Development



Programs & Partnerships



MEASURES OF GROWTH

Performance Measures and Benchmarks to Achieve
a Vibrant and Sustainable Economy for Maine

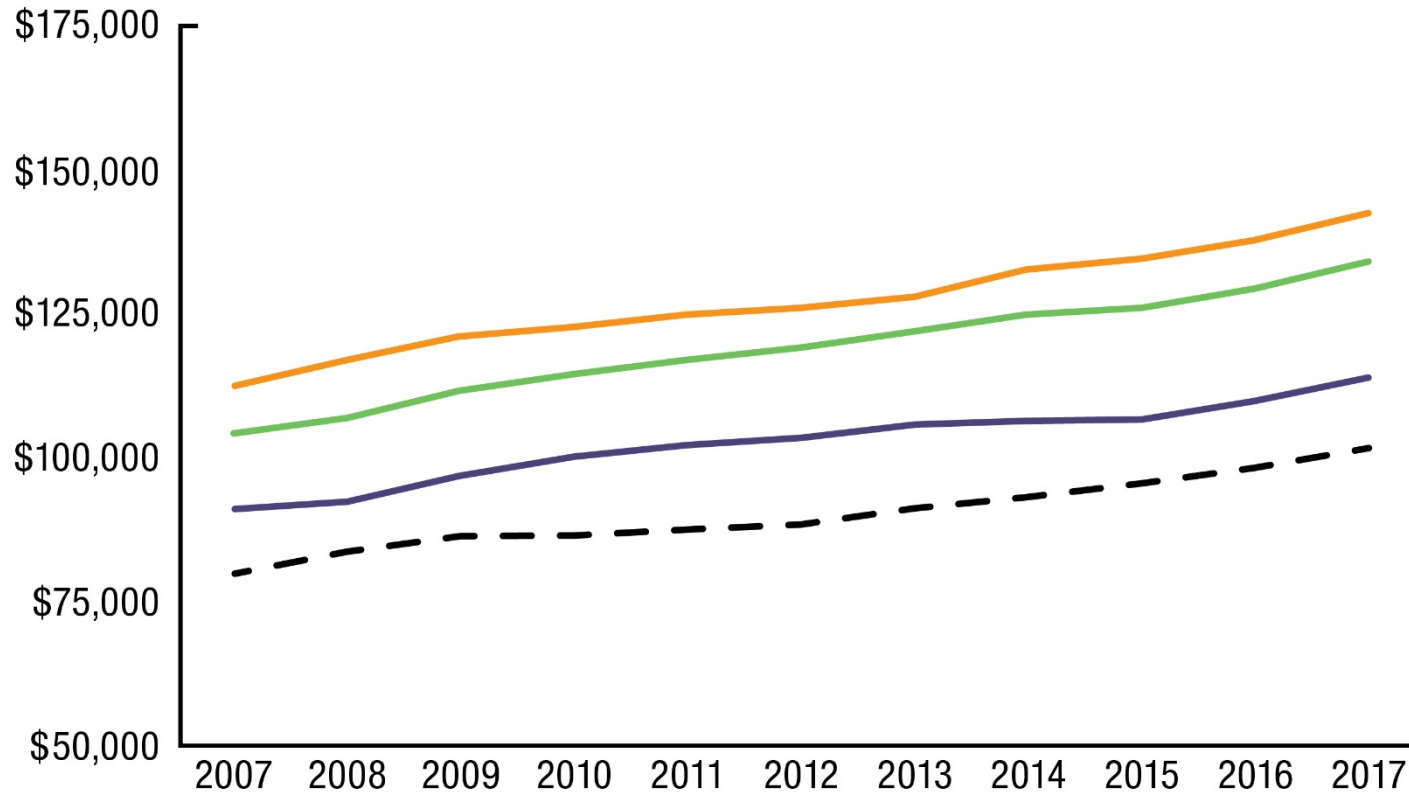
2020



Value-Added per Worker

Fig 7: Value Added per Worker 2008-2018

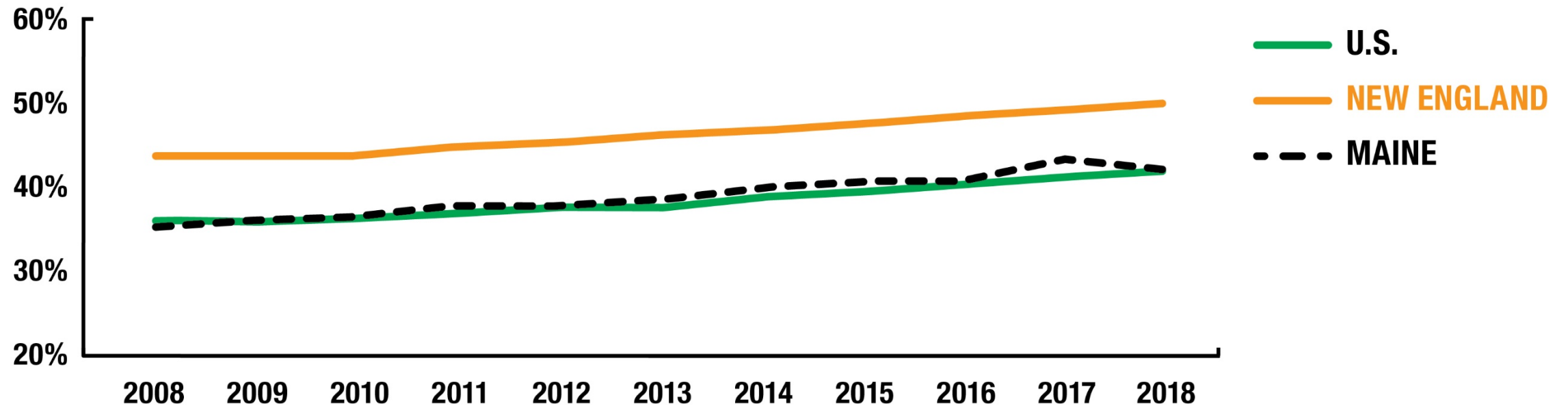
— EPSCoR - - - ME — U.S. — New England



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Postsecondary Degree Attainment and Occupational Credentials

POSTSECONDARY DEGREE ATTAINMENT, RESIDENTS AGE 25 AND OVER, 2008-2018



Invest in Educating, Attracting & Retaining Our People

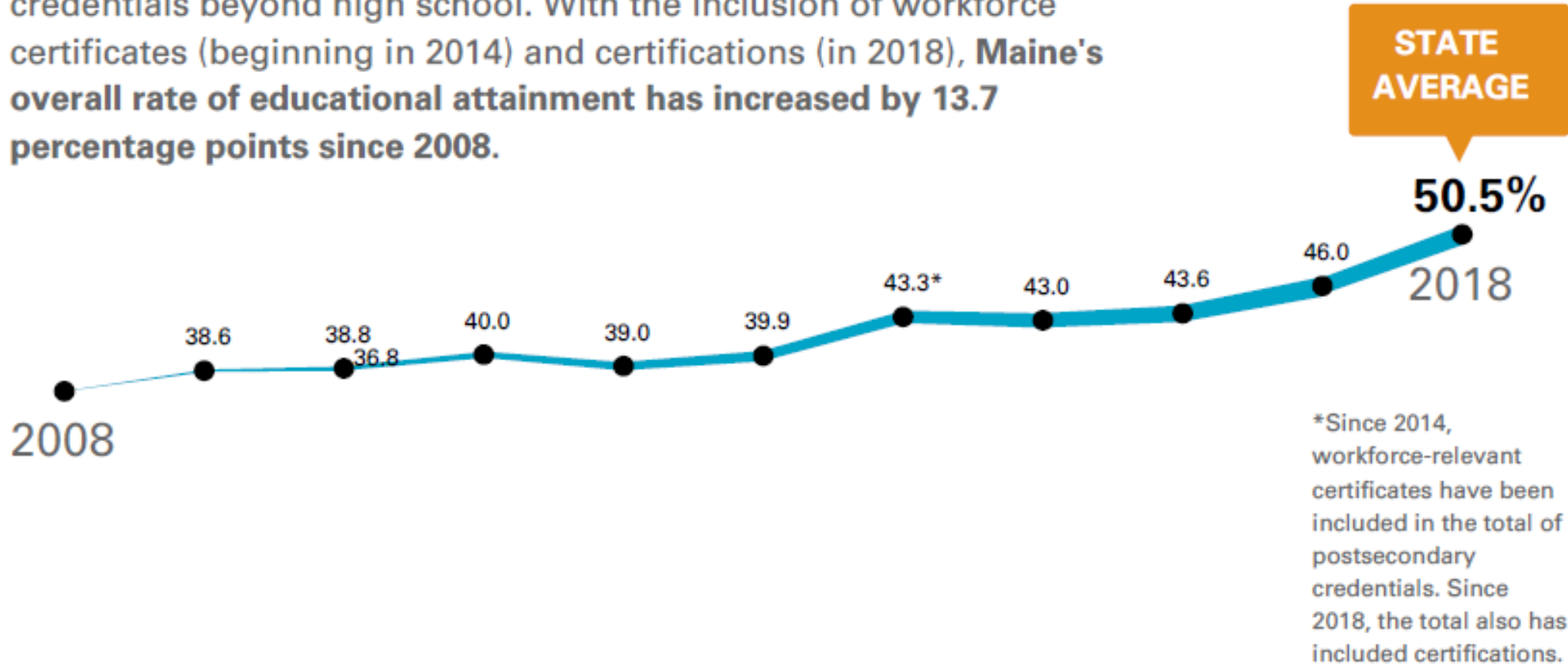
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CONNECT TO YOUR FUTURE

60%
by 2025

MaineSpark.me

Maine's progress

To reach state goals, the state will not only have to maintain current rates of attainment but also significantly increase the number of people who enroll in programs and earn all types of credentials beyond high school. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014) and certifications (in 2018), **Maine's overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 13.7 percentage points since 2008.**



Maine is making progress in increasing educational attainment, but still lags when compared to the national average.

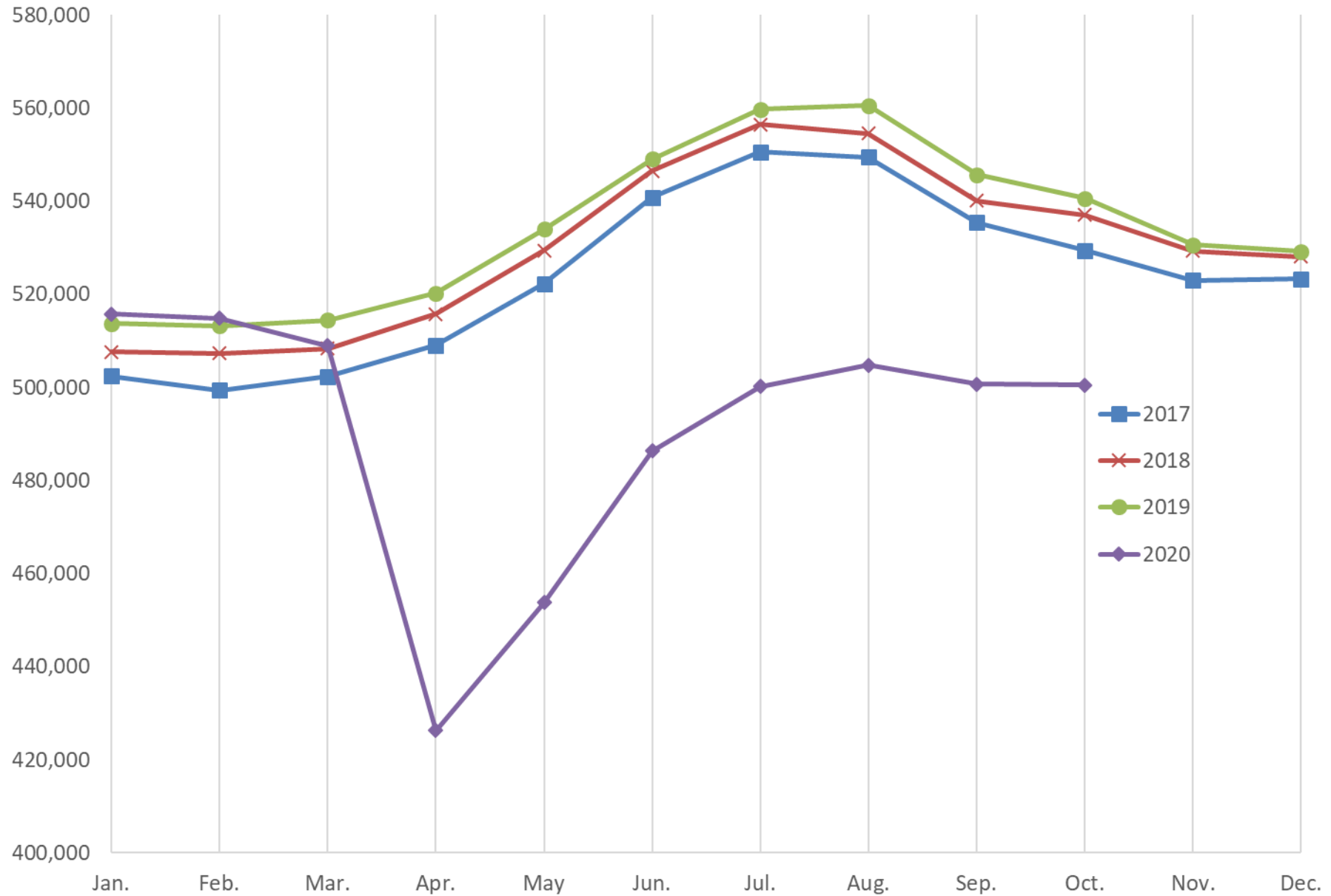


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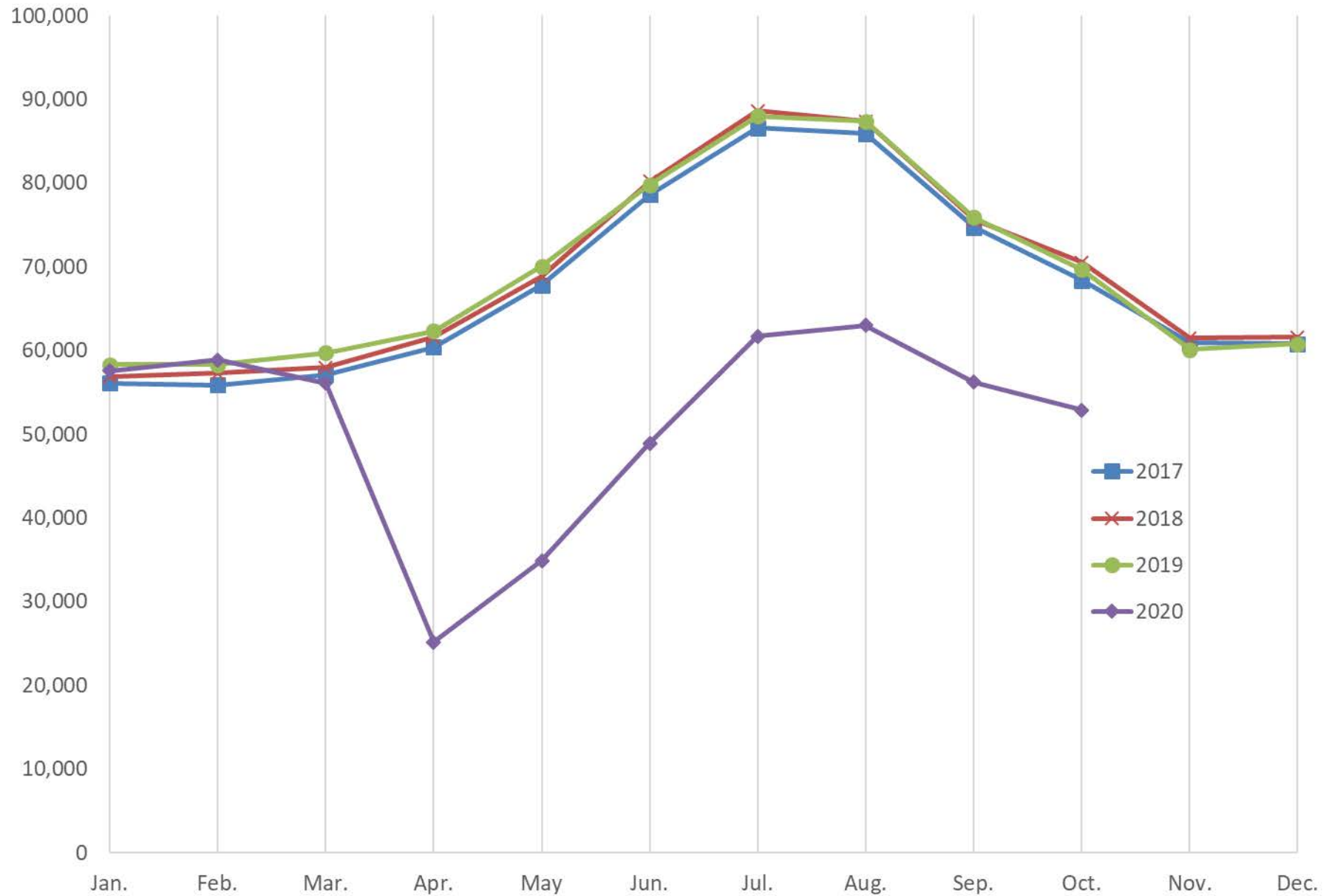
ADULT PROMISE



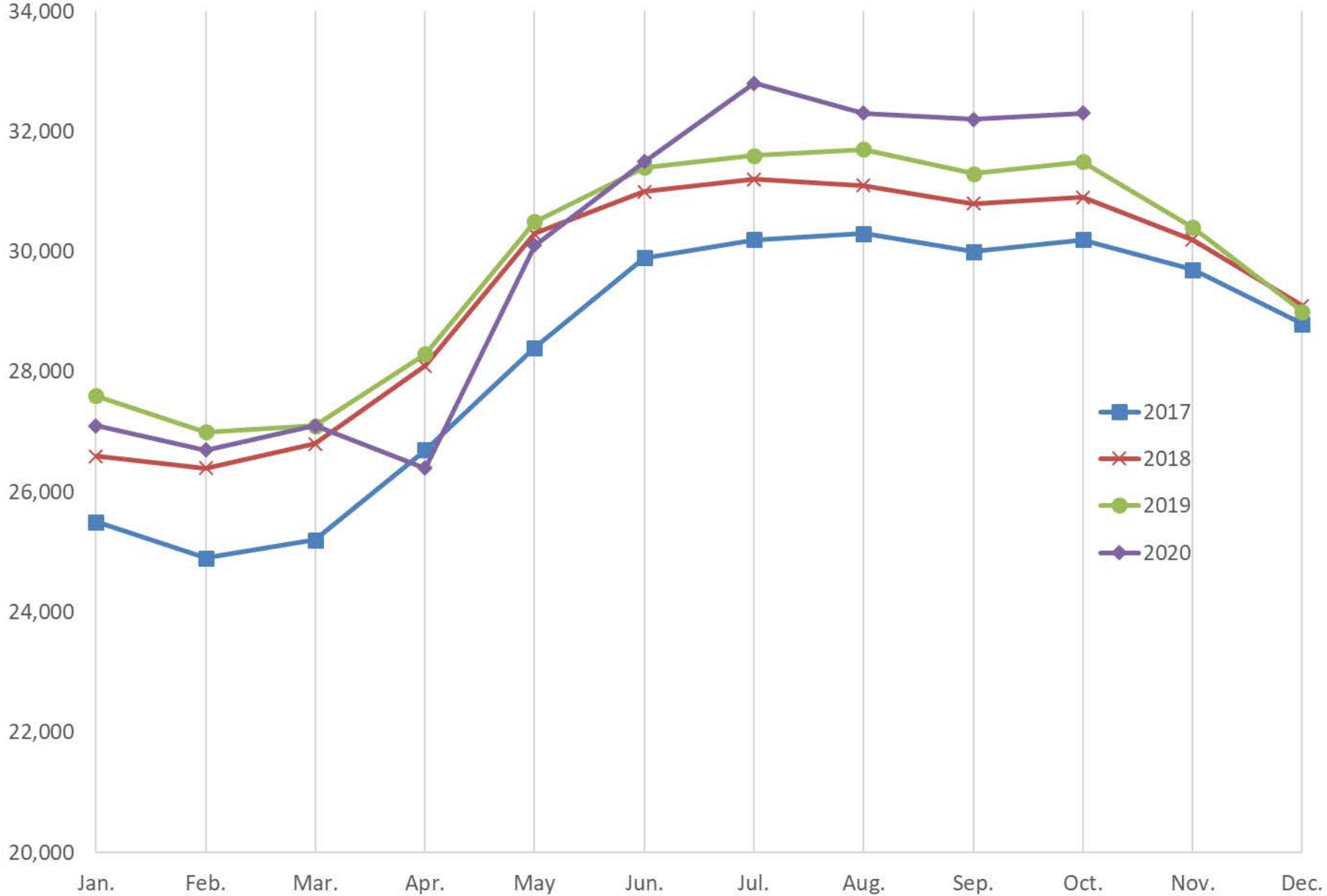
Total Private Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted



Leisure and Hospitality Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted



Construction Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted

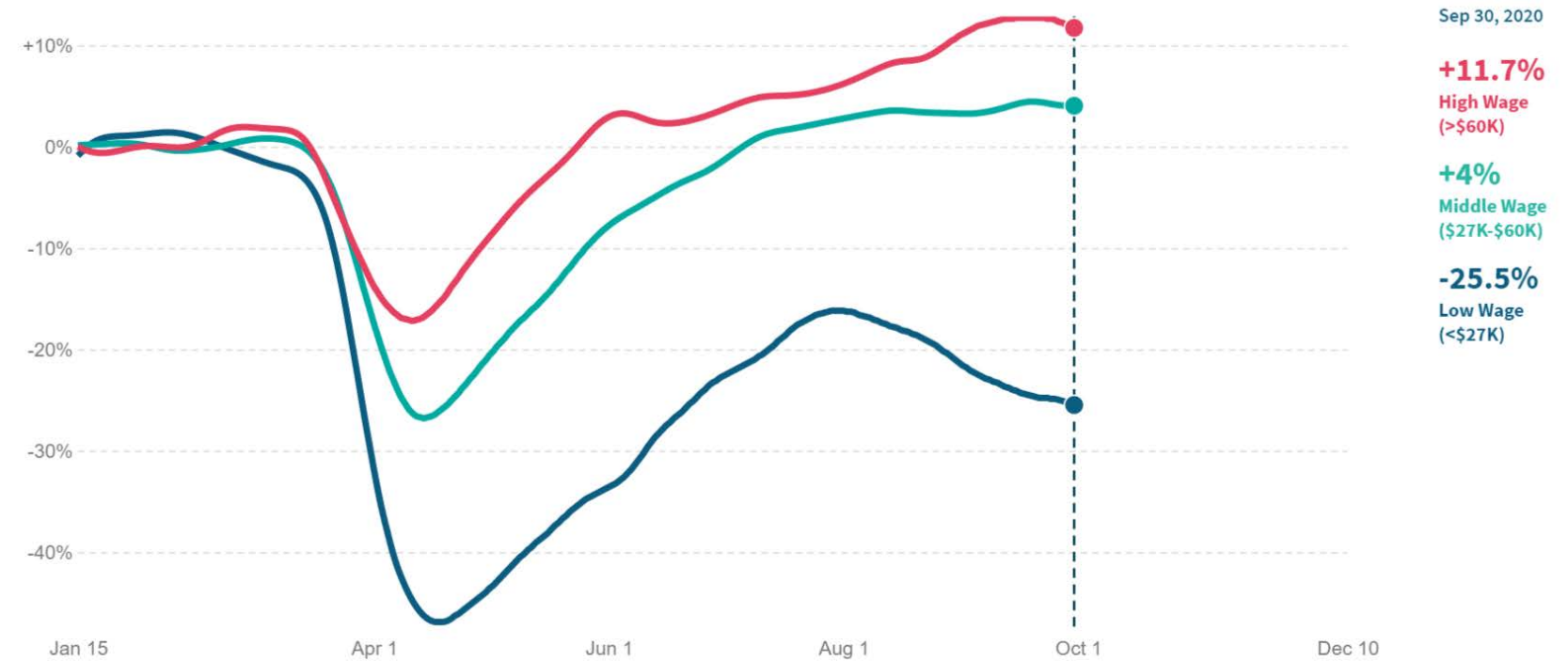


Employment is beginning to look like a “K-shaped” recovery.

In late September, low wage employment was around 25% below January 2020 levels, while high wage employment was nearly 12% higher

Percent Change in Employment*

In **Maine**, as of **September 30 2020**, employment rates among workers in the bottom wage quartile **decreased** by **25.5%** compared to January 2020 (not seasonally adjusted).



*Change in employment rates (not seasonally adjusted), indexed to January 4-31, 2020. This series is based on payroll data from Paychex and Intuit, worker-level data on employment and earnings from Earnin, and timesheet data from Kronos. The dotted line in the low-wage series is a prediction of employment rates based on Kronos data.

last updated: **December 02, 2020** next update expected: **December 11, 2020**



GOVERNOR'S
**ECONOMIC
RECOVERY**
COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUSTAIN
AND GROW MAINE'S ECONOMY
NOVEMBER 24, 2020

maine.gov/future/economicrecovery

Grow Maine's Economy

Talent Development: Unleash the potential of Maine's workforce by creating educational and training pathways for people of all experience levels to access careers in high-demand fields:

- ***Prioritize accessible and affordable education and training options for working adults (emphasis added)***
- Invest in higher education programs and increase degree attainment
- Prepare workers for Maine's innovative and high-demand sectors
- Expand internship opportunities linked to Higher Education
- Restore immigrant rights to access public benefits and the workforce.



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ADULT PROMISE

(for adult learners looking to earn credentials or change careers)

Adult Promise Member Organizations

Educational Institutions

Maine Community College
System

Maine Adult Education

University of Maine System

Husson University

Supportive Services

Finance Authority of Maine

Goodwill Northern New
England

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Educational Opportunity
Center

New Ventures Maine

Connector Agencies

John T. Gorman Foundation

Maine Community Foundation

Maine Development
Foundation

Educate Maine

Northeastern Workforce
Development Board

Coordinated Support Every Step Of The Way To Get To 60% By 2025



If you are an adult seeking a new and stable career path, contact one of the **MaineSpark Navigators** today.

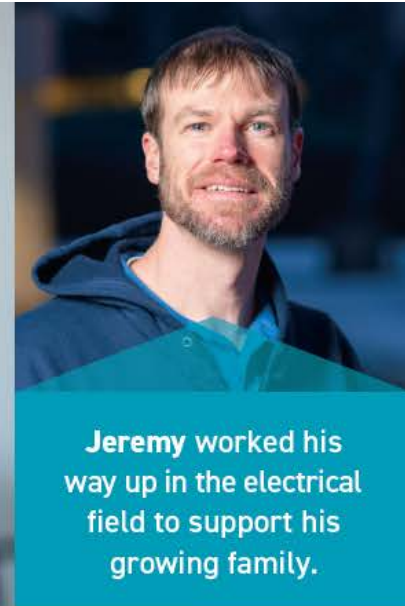
No matter what obstacles you're facing or where you're starting from, the Navigators are here to support you. These experienced advisors will talk to you about the jobs available right now in Maine industries. Share your interests and they'll guide you toward education and training programs that might be a good fit. Navigators can also connect you to Maine resources for financial aid, childcare, transportation, and other needs.

You're in good company.

These Mainers all got the boost they needed to succeed from a Navigator.



Meghan's new healthcare certifications allow her to further her career.



Jeremy worked his way up in the electrical field to support his growing family.



Kwi Nam's kids earned college degrees, and now she's doing the same.



Keith shifted gears in his 50s and now has his dream job in the food industry.

Contact a MaineSpark Navigator to learn more about training and certificate programs you can start now to give you career options.

Visit mainespark.me/contact or email adultpromise@mainespark.me to have a Navigator contact you. You can reach them by email or phone to start a conversation about planning your future. All advising is free, confidential and has no obligations.

SPONSORS





Adult Promise Hub

Education can take you where you want to go.

Are you looking to start or finish a credential or degree, change careers, or learn a new trade or skill? If so, the MaineSpark Navigator Network can help. We're here to support you on your path to education and job success.

On the [Map Your Future](#) page, you can see how others, just like you, reached their goals. Questions about paying for training or school? [Check out these Financial Aid options](#). Need help with other questions? Not sure what comes next? [Connect to Other Resources](#).

Get Started

What are you interested in?

Not sure - show me everything ▼

What type of credentials?

Not sure - show me everything ▼

Where do you want to find schools?

Enter zip code

Leave empty for statewide search

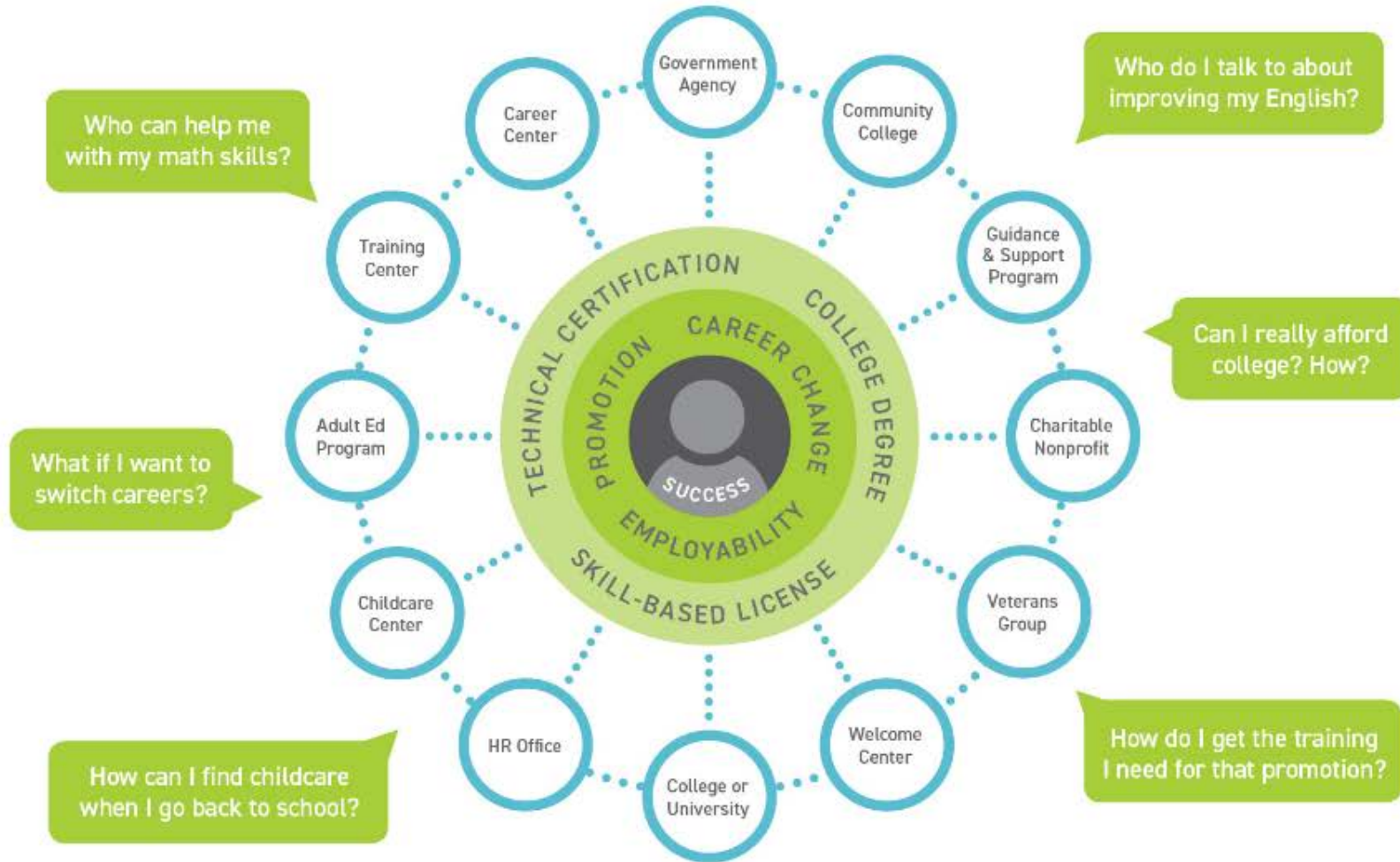
Search Now

[Clear Search](#)



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ADULT PROMISE

**NAVIGATOR
NETWORK
384 TODAY -> 500**

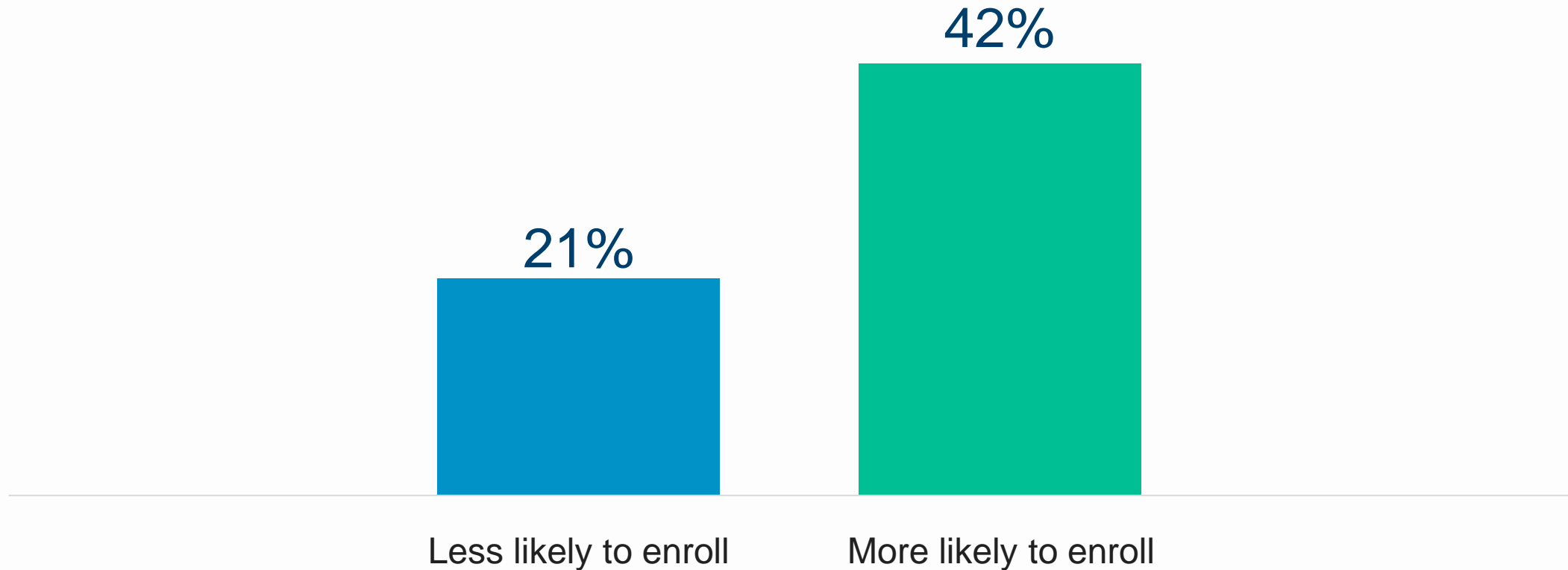


COVID 19

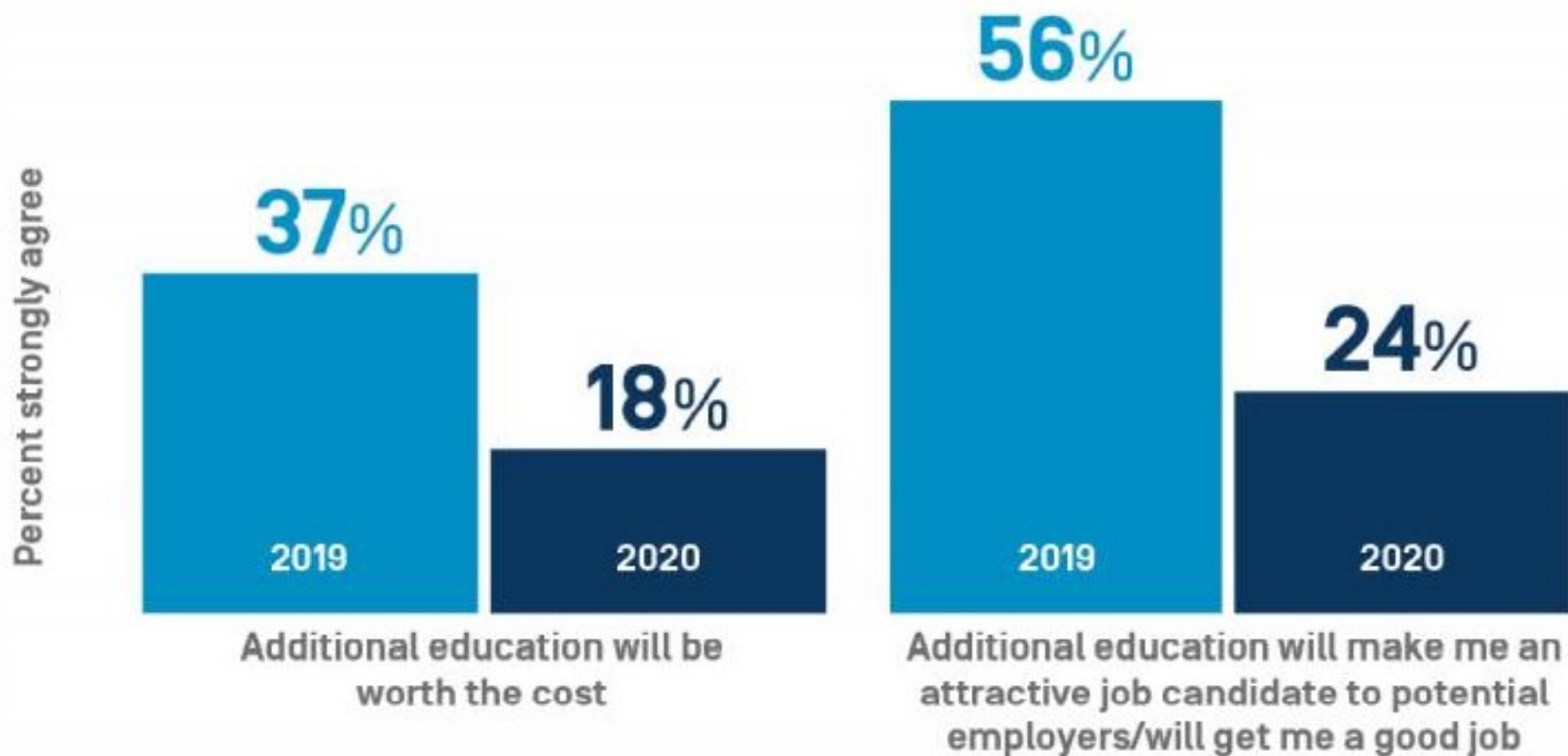


Aspiring adult learners say that COVID-19 has made them more likely to enroll in education

How has the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis affected your interest in enrolling in an education or training program? Would you say you are:



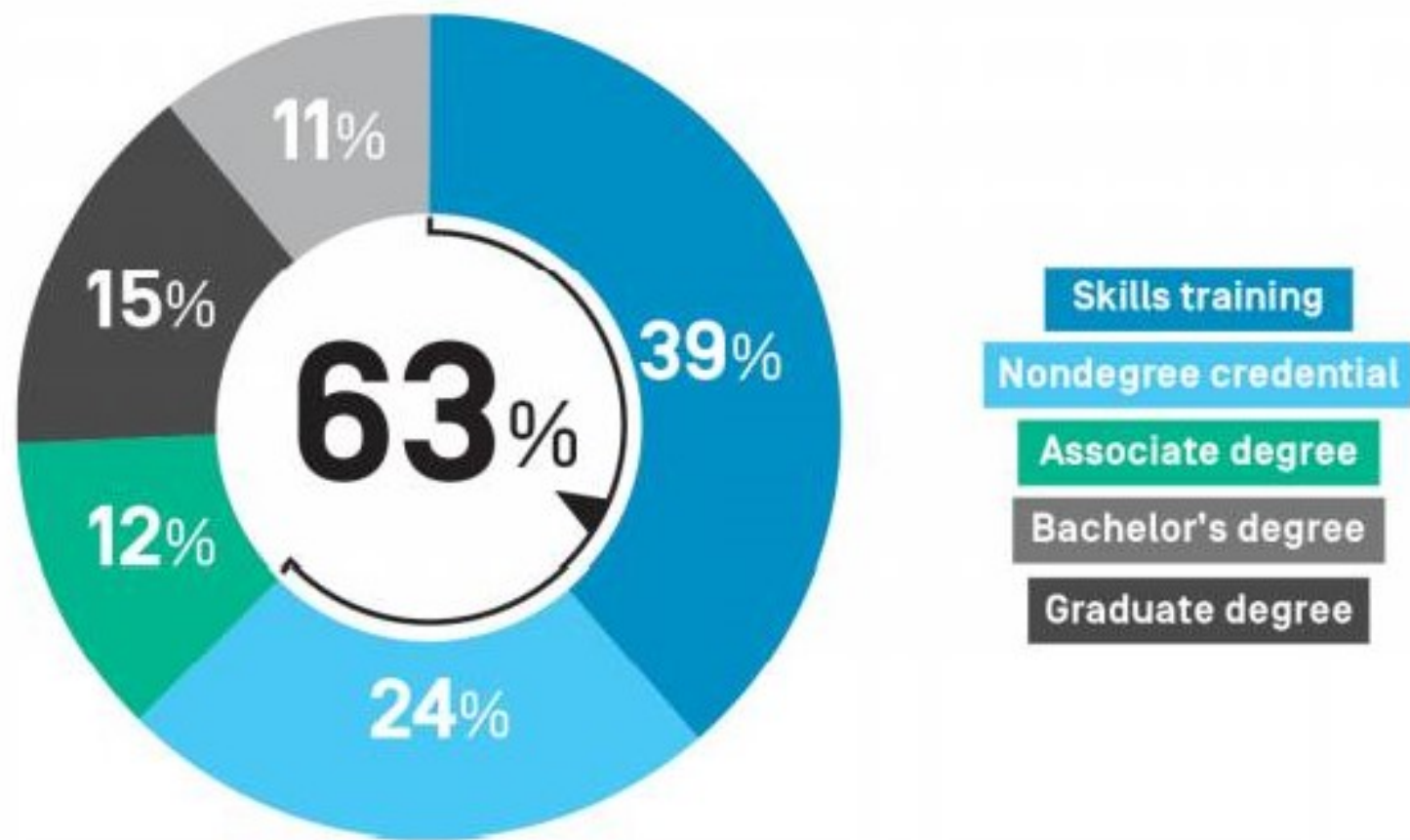
Confidence in the value of education has fallen among aspiring adults



Online survey with Heart+Mind Strategies Aug.-Sept. 2019. Base: Americans ages 25-44 with no postsecondary degree or credential who are considering enrolling in education, n=1,007. Strada Center for Education Consumer Insights Public Viewpoint surveys, June 10-Oct. 15, 2020. Base: adults without degrees ages 25-44 who are considering enrolling in education, n=206.

Since the onset of the pandemic, Americans have expressed a consistent preference for **nondegree** and **skills training** options

Preferred education option (six months)



Strada Center for Education Consumer Insights Public Viewpoint surveys, April 15-Oct. 29. Base: adults ages 18 and older, n=8,911.

*Courses for skills training or personal development. **Certificate, certification, or license.



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ADULT PROMISE

(for adult learners looking to earn credentials or change careers)

Thank You!

Questions about MaineSpark?
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CONNECT TO YOUR FUTURE

60% by 2025